FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

14 MARCH 1985

Iran-Iraq War

Iraqi planes strafed Tabriz and northern Tehran early on 14 March, killing 17 people, IRNA announced. Meanwhile, Iran fired a surface-to-surface missile at Baghdad and resumed the bombardment of Basra, according to communiques cited by IRNA. Iraqi planes had earlier attacked Esfahan and Rasht, a town on the Caspian seabord, the agency reported. Iraqi spokesmen cited by Voice of the Masses radio confirmed the Iraqi raids on Tehran and Tabriz but denied Iran's claimed missile attack on Baghdad, attributing the explosion in the Al-Rafidayn Bank to a bomb planted by "hirelings" of the Iranian regime. The radio also broadcast an announcement that Iraqi planes hit another "large maritime target" near Khark Island early on 14 March.

As for the land battles east of the Tigris, INA announced that Iraqi troops have tightened their siege of Iranian forces on the west bank of the Al-Hawizah marshes, regaining two areas and capturing large numbers of Iranian soldiers. An Iraqi communique broadcast by the Voice of the Masses said the Iranians have failed to expand their foothold west of the marshes and are being forced to withdraw, leaving thousands of corpses on the battlefield. For Iran's part, a communique cited by IRNA reported that Iranian planes attacked Iraqi troop concentrations in the area and that two more Iraqi helicopters were downed. An Iranian Air Force official also denied Iraqi claims that an Iranian F-5 was shot down further north, IRNA noted. The Iranian agency reaffirmed Iran's accusation that Iraq has used chemical weapons against the latest Iranian offensive, reporting that 180 Iranians were injured by the gas, which also caused Iraqi casualties.

Commenting on Iraq's alleged use of chemical weapons, the Iranian deputy foreign minister stated that in view of the "lack of response" from the United Nations over this issue, Iran will be obliged to retaliate, IRNA reported. Majlis Speaker 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani also commented on the military situation, warning Iraq in remarks carried by the agency "not to push us into a situation in which we have to use our missiles against those places that we have been reluctant to attack." He also described Iran's land offensive east of the Tigris as a "limited operation," adding that the "major" and "determining" attack will not be launched now but when "conditions are right." In Baghdad, a military spokesman cited by INA announced that Iraq will henceforth exempt Borujerd from its attacks because of recent demonstrations by the city's population in favor of peace.

Lebanon

Phalangist Internal Crisis -- Christian leaders met at the presidential palace in B'abda on 13 March and decided to form a committee headed by the Maronite patriarch which will act immediately to unite Christian ranks, Voice of Lebanon radio announced. The Voice of Lebanon denied "fabricated reports about imaginary battles" among the Maronite Christians, and reported that east Beirut, Kasrawan, and Jubayl were completely calm. On the other hand, the clandestine Voice of Arab Lebanon radio continued to report clashes between followers of Abu Nadir and Samir Ja'ja', contending that over 15 people were killed in the fighting and that gunmen loyal to Ja'ja' have taken control of most Phalangist centers. The radio also claimed that Abu Nadir's men rocketed the building housing the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon, which remained off the air on 13 March but resumed broadcasting the following morning, telling its listeners that transmission had been disrupted by an equipment fault.

West Beirut -- A car bomb in the Al-Rawshah area killed three people and wounded seven others, Voice of Lebanon radio reported.

Maghreb Affairs

The Maghreb summit meeting planned for the end of March has been postponed because of differences over the Western Sahara, Tunisian Foreign Minister Beji Caid Essebsi disclosed in a statement reported by AFP. Monitored Tunisian media have not mentioned this announcement.

Sudan

President Ja'far Numayri issued a decree providing for the establishment of a Higher National Committee for Peace which will work for national unity and will call for a general regional congress attended by representatives of the southern regions and of the SSU, SUNA reported.

Pakistan

The Foreign Office protested to Afghanistan over another violation of Pakistani airspace by DRA aircraft, Karachi radio reported.

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APS: 'Arafat Attends Chernenko Funeral

LD131554 Algiers APS in English 1006 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Text] Moscow, 13-3-85 (APS) — Yasir 'Arafat, P.L.O. Executive Committee chief arrived yesterday in Moscow to attend funeral of late Konstantin Chernenko, *PRAVDA* Soviet P.C [as received] organ said. 'Arafat was accompanied by Faruq Qaddumi head of P.L.O. Political Department.

'Arafat Chairs Executive Committee Meeting 12 Mar

JN131720 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1616 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Text] Under the chairmanship of brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] and in the presence of all PLO Executive Committee members, the Executive Committee held a meeting in the Tunisian capital yesterday. Our radio correspondent has learned that the Executive Committee discussed the strategy of the Palestinian move in the coming stage within the framework of the plan of joint action with Jordan and in light of the results reached by the two sides through their contacts with a number of Arab and foreign capitals.

'Arafat WATANI Article on 'Arab Impasse'

LD132348 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1702 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Text] Under the heading: "Seven Keys To Emerge From the Arab Impasse," *WATANI* magazine [not further identified] has published an article by Yasir 'Arafat, commander in chief of the Palestine revolution forces.

The article says: When the Palestine revolution broke out on 1 January 1965, one of its ambitions was to become a unifying factor for all Arabs and a meeting point were all Arabs would amass their resources to liberate the occupied Palestinian land. We hoped that the outbreak of our revolution would gradually contribute to restoring the Arab body which is worn out by disagreements and divisions. This hope has still not materialized 20 years after the revolution despite the numerous awakenings experienced by the Arab homeland — awakenings which were not fulfilled and did not continue. This is the essence of the impasse which the Arabs are now experiencing, and from my position in the Palestine revolution I can see a number of keys which are necessary in order to emerge from this impasse.

1. Halting the Iraq-Iran war.

The PLO did everything possible in its mediation efforts to halt this war. I often began my conversation at Arab meetings by concentrating on this aim to project its special importance. It is high time that all Arabs exerted every effort to reach an immediate solution to the dispute in the Gulf.

2. Egypt's return to take up its natural role within the Arab body.

The 17th PNC in Amman stressed the importance of developments in Egyptian policy. Before this we waged a battle which ended with the return of Egypt to the ICO despite the fact that we were in disagreement and continue to be so about the policy and course of the Camp David accords. We realized, however, that with its history and role in the document of Camp David, whose true aim was to isolate Egypt from the Arab nation, it is not possible to cut Egypt out. We are aware that President Husni Mubarak is making a great effort to foil this aim. What took place regarding this is the fact that the Egyptian Government allowed Camp David to be one of topics of disagreement in the Egyptian parliamentary elections in May 1984, while the party which rejected Camp David before the Mubarak era was not permitted to be active. We must also realize that the Egyptian people refused normalization with Israel with unshakeable faith. We the Palestinian people have a great trust in this people and their ability to surmount at some time the Camp David accords which the Israelis are themselves violating and are using as a cover for their aggression. From this premise the Palestine revolution will fight for the return of Egypt to its natural position in the body of the Arab nation: Egypt of 7,000 years of civilization; Egypt of manpower; Egypt of power of civilization; Egypt the military power; Arab Egypt must return to us and we must return to it. Because of all this my visit to Egypt did not stem from a particular decision, and also because of this our last PNC asked the PLO Executive Committee to adopt the policy which takes account of this reality and meets the requirements of our people in Egypt and in the Gaza sector and works for the consolidation of relations between the two fraternal peoples — the Egyptian and the Palestinian.

3. A unified stance of the Arab Maghreb states adds to the assets of the general Arab stance.

The Arab weight in Algeria, Tunisia, Morocco, and in Mauritania must come in solidarity to help us in the Mashriq. The fateful battle which the Arab peoples are waging in the Mashriq by virtue of implanting the Zionist entity in the heart of that region, is the same battle of the peoples of the Arab Maghreb. The general role of the Arab Maghreb in the battle of destiny requires primarily, however, that action be taken to end the differences in that region and then to crystallize a unified stance of the Maghreb states that would serve as a model for their brothers in the Arab Mashriq.

It goes without saying that all the Arab states must participate in finding a radical solution to the differences in the Arab Maghreb, whether through bilateral mediation or through an Arab summit to be convened after a sound preparation under the motto: A total Arab solidarity in the Mashriq and in the Arab Maghreb.

4. The independent Palestinian national decision within the framework of the general national committment.

All the Arab states must endorse the principle of noninterference in the affairs of the Palestine revolution. It must be asserted at the same time that the independent Palestinian national decision is linked with the pan-Arab dimension, because the liberation of Palestine depends on the struggle of the PLO and the Palestinian people side by side with the struggle of the Arab peoples. The Zionist threat applies to the entire Arab nation and is not confined to the colonization occupation of Palestine alone. Therefore we are anxious to continue the effort to achieve a

complete Palestinian national unity with an independent will and decision which would be loyal to the aims for which we and our organization struggle and for whose sake our martyrs fell.

5. Calculated vigilant linkage between the armed struggle and political struggle against the Zionist occupation of the Arab lands. The political moves being conducted by the PLO aims to create an international atmosphere capable of asserting our inalienable national rights, foremost of which the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination and the setting up of their independent state. However, from our own experience and that of the world national liberation movements, we are confident that our move can only attain its objectives through military pressure on Israel, through escalating the armed struggle in our occupied territory in Palestine and elsewhere in the Arab lands, and by pooling all economic and military capabilities and forces for redressing the balance of power which tips in favor of our enemy. In this context, the political struggle of the PLO remains the effective means for bolstering world sympathy for our cause, as was clearly reflected during the recent UN General Assembly meeting on the Palestine question, where Israel was isolated and was only supported by the United States and Canada.

6. The rectification of relations with Syria and not the mere restoration of these relations.

There is a big difference between the two words. We open our hearts, chests, and minds stemming from this basic point, namely: Yes to the restoration of relations with Syria on the basis of the independence of Palestinian decision-making and noninterference in Palestinian affairs. The Palestinian question is not a card in the hands of any one, but belongs to the Palestine people and the Arab nation. For this reason, the 17th PNC recommended rising above the tension that has afflicted the Palestinian-Syrian and above the wounds and agonies and bitter feeling in order to rectify the relations on a clear and frank basis guaranteeing the freedom of will, national decision-making, and equal cooperation within the framework of national commitment away from interference in the internal affairs of any of the two sides; all this for the sake of amassing all capabilities against the Israeli-American alliance and its designs throughout the entire Arab homeland.

7. The struggle for foiling the sectarian plan to partition Lebanon — a plan which threatents the entire region with Balkanization.

This threat does not stop at Lebanon's borders. It extends beyond it to the East and the Arab Gulf. For this reason, checking this threat is a task which falls on the shoulders of all the Arab national forces and not only the national Lebanese forces. These forces must unify their efforts to thwart the sectarian plan in Lebanon and protect the region from the threat of Balkanization, which has been one of the Israeli-American objectives since the detonation of the civil war in Lebanon in 1975.

These are the keyes needed to overcome the Arab impasse and to prevent the imposition of a unilateral peace process, which experience has shown leads to no positive results. On the contrary, the adoption of this type of peace, which can only be under the American umbrella, will only increase the Israeli danger which threatens the entire Arab nation. The only way to check this danger lies in the national Arab upsurge through reliance on the weight and move of the Arab masses who have been kept away from the arena.

Hence the importance of the cause of democracy in the Arab homeland. Despite all the ordeals that faced the Palestine revolution, we have gone forward persistently to safeguard our democracy through the frontal framework epitomized by the PLO, and the adoption of dialogue as a means for solving differences. Dialogue is the ideal way to solve all the inter-Arab conflicts, for in the end these differences must be secondary in the era of the struggle against imperialism and Zionism.

Before the Palestine-Israeli war in Beirut, I spoke about the dark tunnel, and about the Balkanization they were seeking for the Arab region, but I said also then that I can see Jerusalem at the end of the tunnel. For this, I say to all: We have a rendevous in Jerusalem and surrender to ordeals does not fall within our calculations.

It is a revolution until victory.

'Arafat Orders Cadres 'Organized' in Beirut

LD130959 Tripoli JANA in English 0810 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Text] Beirut, 20 Jumada Hani, 13 March, JAMAHIRYAH NEWS AGENCY — News from Beirut reported that 20 Palestinian officers and officials received orders from Yasir 'Arafat to head for Beirut to handle the military affairs and manage and organise the Palestinian cadres and military hardware in Lebanon.

This step came after obtaining the approval of the Lebanese Government of their arrival.

No doubt this is a national attitude taken by the Lebanese Government which signifies the failure of the Zionist aggression on Lebanon which is aimed at wiping out the Palestinian resistance whom we see today returning to the Lebanese arena as it has been before the aggression.

Reaction To U.S. Veto of Lebanese Resolution

Abu Mayzar Raps Veto

JN131957 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1730 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Text] Damascus, 13 Mar (SANA) — 'Abd al-Muhsin Abu Mayzar, official spokesman for the PLO, has described the U.S. veto of the Lebanese draft resolution that calls for condemning Israel's practices and massacres in southern Lebanon as a new, strong blow to those who wager on the United States and to the brokers of its policy and liquidatory plans. In a statement today, Abu Mayzar said that the U.S. veto reaffirms that the continuation of resistance in all forms, including armed struggle, is the only guarantee for liberating the land, restoring the national rights, and undermining the trend of capitulation and its symbols, as well as all the imperialist and Zionist designs.

The official PLO spokesman stressed that the Husayn-'Arafat-Mubarak agreement encouraged the United States to continue its aggressive positions against the Arab nation as well as its support for the Zionist entity and its fascist and expansionist practices. He also called on all the strugglers and honest people in the Arab homeland to unify their ranks in one front in order to save the Palestinian people's cause and national rights and to enable the PLO to regain its national line that is hostile to imperialism and Zionism.

Habash Urges Severing Relations

JN131912 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1815 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Text] Damascus, 13 Mar (SANA) — PFLP Secretary General Dr George Habash has asserted that the use of the veto by the United States against the Lebanese draft resolution, despite the ugly crimes which the Zionist army committed and is still committing against the southerners and despite international consensus on condemning these barbaric practices, shows the extent of U.S. collusion and participation in the scheme of annihilation perpetrated by the Zionist enemy authorities against the Lebanese and Palestinian people. In a statement issued after the United States vetoed the Lebanese draft resolution, Dr Habash said this U.S. stand, which is hostile to national Arab rights, exposes the state of shame and defeat in which reactionary Arab circles are living and their collusion with and capitulation to the U.S. Administration.

Dr Habash called for severing Arab relations with Washington and for holding it responsible for the massacres perpetrated against the Palestinian and Lebanese people. This is considered one of the simplest ways to express rejection of U.S. policy toward our Arab nation.

PLO Radio Comments

JN131944 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1626 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Station commentary]

[Text] As expected, the United States used the right of veto at the UN Security Council yesterday to avert a Lebanese draft resolution condemning Israel's terrorist acts in southern Lebanon. By this attitude, Washington may have done the Lebanese and Arabs a great favor. It is as if the Lebanese draft resolution has been passed by the Security Council and has become a condemnation decision.

The UN resolution calling for the immediate and unconditional withdrawal of Israeli forces from Lebanon has remained buried in the UN archives since the beginning of the 1982 invasion, and the long series of condemnations has not prevented Israel from continuing its policy of terrorism, expansion, and annexation. Therefore, another Security Council condemnation, even if allowed by Washington, would not have changed the situation.

The U.S. decision to use the veto to avert a condemnation that would have been useless anyway has given us the opportunity to form a good idea of what to expect from a U.S. role in the Middle East. If we are not mistaken, the clarity of the situation in this manner has been no coincidence. In fact, the U.S. Administration has purposely adopted this attitude in the Security Council to convey the message to the parties concerned in the region, especially the Arabs, that they should not expect much from U.S. policy.

The southern Lebanese situation, which has been debated for the past 3 weeks in the Security Council, is clear. Even the Zionist enemy does not make territorial claims on this region. Therefore, no matter how it tries, Washington must admit that the Israeli forces in southern Lebanon are occupation forces. There are no effective Palestinian, Syrian, or even Lebanese forces in the south. The war there is simply between an occupation force and a people who are resisting the occupation of their territory.

In addition to all these basic facts, Israel is openly announcing its oppressive policy and terrorist destructive actions against the people of the south. It is striking with what it terms its iron-fist policy, not only the bodies and houses of the southerners, but also any logical world interpretation of the situation.

The truth is that Lebanon purposely demanded a direct vote on its draft resolution in the Security Council after the massacre committed by the Israeli forces in the village of Al-Zrariyah. Lebanon thought it was presenting a straight forward condemnation case, but despite all the clarity of the principles and actions, the United States used the veto against all concepts of justice, human rights, and international law. Washington thus demanded equal condemnation of acts of resistance and acts of the occupation forces.

If such is the attitude of the United States on such a simple case, and if this is the full extent of U.S. Middle East policy, what then do the Arabs expect from Washington when it comes to the more complicated political, legal, and security issues? We must also point out that this U.S. attitude, with all its intimations, has been adopted at a time when enormous efforts are being exerted in Washington to reactivate Middle East, and also at a time when President Husni Mubarak was meeting with President Reagan in the White House. We, the Arabs, and President Mubarak must draw the necessary conclusions and act accordingly. As for southern Lebanon, it seems that the hero southerners can resolve its problem.

ICO 'Regrets' Veto

LD132213 Riyadh SPA in English 1925 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Text] Jeddah, March 13 SPA — The Organisation of Islamic Conference today expressed its regret over the U.S. decision to veto a U.N. Security Council's draft resolution which condemned Israel's aggression on south Lebanon. In a statement issued here today, its Secretary General Sharaf al-Din Pirzada said the American veto was a disappointment to the international community and will help encourage the Israeli entity to go ahead with its aggressive and expansionist policies against innocent civilians. He called on the United States to reconsider its unlimited support to Israel in order to spare the region more escalations, constituting a real threat to world peace and security.

Palestinian-Israeli Talks in Bonn Reported

GF121432 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic 12 Mar 85 p 1

["Exclusive" report from Bonn]

[Text] It was reported in the FRG capital yesterday that undeclared Palestinian-Israeli talks are taking place.

Representing the PLO in these talks are Khalid al-Hasan and Ahmad Sidqi al-Dajani, and from the occupied territories, Raymonda al-Tawil and Nasir Nazzal. Representatives from a number of foreign ministries in the EEC countries also are participating.

More Reports on Joint Forces Attacks in Lebanon

JN131755 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1616 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Text] Heroes of the Palestinian-Lebanese joint forces continue to escalate their armed operations against personnel and equipment of the Zionist invasion forces in occupied southern Lebanon, inflicting more losses. Today the heroes of the joint forces shelled a Zionist command post near Rashayya in occupied southern Lebanon with katyushas. The shelling resulted in destroying the Zionist post and in killing or wounding those in it. A Zionist military spokesman admitted the operation but refrained from revealing his losses. He said his forces surrounded the area, launched a large-scale search campaign, and arrested many citizens on the pretext of having connections with the heroes of the joint forces, who safely returned to their base.

In one of the most daring armed operations, the heroes of the joint forces detonated a boobytrapped car near a Zionist military convoy south of Jazzin in occupied southern Lebanon yesterday. The explosion resulted in killing and wounding a large number of Zionist soldiers. The heroes of the joint forces attacked a Zionist military position near the Al-Qasimiyah bridge in occupied southern Lebanon yesterday. The attack, carried out with machineguns and rockets, resulted in killing and wounding large number of Zionist soldiers. The heroes of the joint forces also attacked another Zionist military position near Dayr Qanun al-Nahr in occupied southern Lebanon. The attack resulted in destroying the Zionist position and in killing or wounding a number of Zionist soldiers.

The Zionist military spokesman admitted the three operations but, as usual, refrained from revealing its losses. He said his forces immediately launched large-scale search-and-detention campaigns in search of the heroes of the joint forces, but to no avail.

Briefs

Islamic Loan Agreements — Jeddah, 12 Mar (WAKH) — Two agreements were signed in Jeddah today between the Islamic Development Bank [IDB] and the Tunisian Textile Company. The agreements are worth $9 million. According to these agreements, the bank will finance two foreign trade operations to import raw cotton and cotton thread from an IDB member country on behalf of Tunis. [Excerpt] [*Manama WAKH in Arabic 1805 GMT 12 Mar 85 GF*]

BAHRAIN

AKHBAR AL-KHALIJ Criticizes U.S. Veto in UN

GF130916 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0645 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Excerpt] Manama, 13 Mar (WAKH) — A Bahraini newspaper today expressed its regret over the U.S. veto of a UN Security Council draft resolution which denounces the bloodbath perpetrated by the Zionist occupation forces — they are continuing their brutal acts against the innocent residents of southern Lebanon. Commenting editorially, *AKHBAR AL-KHALIJ* said that because the United States has used the veto, it has thus forfeited its right to talk about combatting terrorism since the United States now apparently supports and defends it. The paper questioned the concept of terrorism in U.S. law, and said: Is it considered terrorism for the people to fight whose lands were occupied, whose resources were plundered, and who were subjected to torture, loss of homes, and oppression? Should they sit silently beside the streets and watch the invaders desecrate and crush their children? The paper expected that the current visit of Egyptian President Husni Mubarak to the United States will yield nothing in light of the U.S. position, which is hostile to the simplest Arab human rights. This is seen in Washington's use of the veto against the denunciation of a sanguine, Nazist, and ugly operation committed by the Israeli forces against residents of small villages who defend themselves and defend their children because they refuse to give in.

AKHBAR AL-KHALIJ said: How can we expect, with such a mentality, to formulate a settlement that honors our nation and averts its humiliation on any level? The paper concluded by stressing that the United States has failed as a superpower which shoulders the responsibility of implementing the United Nations and Human Rights Charters that ensure a just and free life for people on their national soil. The paper added that the resistance daily tolerates the suffering in Lebanon and shortens the distances through the darkness toward an Arab dawn that will definitely come.

KUWAIT

'High-Level' Economic Talks With PRC Open

LD131335 Kuwait KUNA in English 1232 GMT 13 Mar 85

[By Shamil Khairi]

[Text] Kuwait, March 13 (KUNA) — High-Level Chinese-Kuwaiti economic talks opened here Wednesday aiming at boosting and enlarging financial, commercial and investment cooperation between the two countries. Official sources here told KUNA the two sides discussed possibilities of expanding bilateral economic cooperation as well as increasing commercial exchange. The sources added that the Chinese and Kuwaiti officials formed, during their meeting, joint-subcommittees specialized in looking into fields of economic cooperation in order to agree on suitable joint cooperation projects particularly in the fields of agriculture, fishery and animal resources in addition to water energy.

Meanwhile, Oil and Industry Minister Shaykh 'Ali al-Khalifa al-Adhbi and Economy and Finance Minister Jasim Muhammad al-Kharafi, in addition to a number of government officials, represented Kuwait in today's talks while Chinese State Councillor for Economic and Financial Affairs Zhang Jingfu and the 18-man delegation accompanying him, including assistant foreign minister and deputy minister for external trade and economic affairs represented their country. [sentence as received] The chinese delegation arrived here last night on a four-day trip.

However, latest Kuwaiti official statistics indicated that Kuwaiti imports from China reached 39 million KD and remained stable since 1980, while the Kuwaiti exports to China including crude oil and refined oil production dropped sharply. In 1983 they decreased to 9000 KD [as received] from 35.7 million KD in 1980. In the meantime, official sources in Beijing said that commercial exchange between the two countries have reached 50 million KD in 1983.

KUNA: Al-'Atiqi, Delegation Depart Moscow

LD131831 Kuwait KUNA in English 1710 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Text] Moscow, March 13 (KUNA) — Advisor at the Amiri Diwan in Kuwait 'Abd al-Rahman Salim al-'Atiqi and the delegation accompanying him left here for Kuwait Wednesday evening after paying last respects to the late Soviet leader Konstantin Chernenko. Al-'Atiqi and the delegation had a meeting with the deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium to convey their condolences and wish the new secretary general of the Communist Party and the Soviet people progress and prosperity.

The Soviet leader, in turn, thanked Kuwait for sending a delegation to attend the funeral of Chernenko and hoped for another meeting at better times.

The delegation was seen off by the Soviet leader and a number of the Soviet Foreign Ministry officials in addition to Kuwait Ambassador in Moscow 'Abd al-Najim al-Din al-Jarrah and embassy staff.

Al-'Atiqi and the delegation including Deputy Director of the Foreign Ministry Protocol Department Hamad al-Ubaydi to attend the funeral and pay last respects to Chernenko.[as received]

AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM Calls on Arabs To Support Iraq

GF121702 Manama WAKH in English 1615 GMT 12 Mar 85

[From the press review]

[Excerpt] The Kuwaiti daily *AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM* warned today of the escalation of the Iran-Iraq war and called for an active move to halt the conflict between the two neighbouring countries.

"Iran prepared itself to become the expansionist power in the region under false claims," the paper said.

AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM called on Arabs to change their way of dealing with the war and to fully support Iraq against Iran. "All Arab charters and mutual interest urge a real change in the Arab stance toward this war," the Kuwaiti newspaper added.

Proposal to Amend Election Law for Women's Vote
GF121500 Kuwait AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 11 Mar 85 P 1

[Parliamentary correspondent report]

[Excerpt] *AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM* has learned that Deputy 'Abd al-Rahman al-Ghunaym has presented the first draft law to the chairmanship of the National Assembly in the sixth legislative term, providing for the amendment of the election law so that it will include giving Kuwaiti women the right to vote.

QATAR

Defense Minister Comments on Iran-Iraq War, GCC
GF131730 Manama WAKH in English 1515 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Text] Jeddah, 13 Mar (WAKH) — Qatar's crown prince and defence minister, Shaykh Hamad ibn Khalifah Al Thani, called on Iran to respond to peace initiatives aiming at ending this destructive war on basis of justice for the good of the friendly and Moslem people of Iran and for the good of the peoples of the whole region.

Shaykh Hamad praised Iraq's response to peace initiatives to end this tragic war.

In an interview with the Saudi weekly magazine *AL-MAJALLAH* published today Shaykh Hamad said that the war was one of the main topics discussed by H.H. the Amir with the Turkish president.

Shaykh Hamad affirmed Qatar's support to Turkish endeavours to put an end to this destructive war and to keep the region away from foreign interventions.

Putting an end to this war should be given priority to secure stability and prosperity in the region, Shaykh Hamad said.

He pointed out that the role of the member states of the Gulf Cooperation Council for the Arab states of the Gulf was sincere and serious. The crown prince hoped that this role, in collaboration with other international, Islamic and Arab parties, would lead to stability in this vital part of the world.

Asked about the coming joint meeting of the defence and foreign ministers, the crown prince said consultations and contacts are underway among member states to determine its date, affirming that there is not any difficulties preventing holding this meeting or any other meeting.

On diversification of sources of weapons, Shaykh Hamad termed it as a sound policy, adding that this policy has become an important and vital issue in light of various international conditions noting that Qatar is purpusing this policy for having major positive aspects, as dependence on one source of weapons should be harmful to the policy of armament for any country. We are consulting with our brothers in the GCC in this field as well as in other fields, he said.

Qatar's policy in this regard is based on getting required weapons from any quarter, Shaykh Hamad said noting that we face no obstacles to get weapons from the sources we are currently dealing with.

Despite economic conditions the region is passing through, Qatar is going ahead with its armament plans, the crown prince said underlining the prime attention given by H.H. the Amir of Qatar Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani in this respect which is among his other concerns to achieve stability and prosperity for the country. Qatar, as a member of the GCC, is also contributing with all its potentialities to foster the pillars of the GCC, the crown prince said adding that there is a full coordination among GCC members in all fields including military training and armament.

Asked about projects on joint military production by the GCC member states the crown prince said the issue is under discussion.

Concerning gas in Qatar the crown prince said we will use it for the benefit of the nation.

The Crown prince praised the role by King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz of Saudi Arabia in the service of the Arab and Islamic nation in general and the Palestinian cause in particular. Shaykh Hamad also praised King Fahd's determination to undertake every possible effort to restore the usurped Arab rights and to gain support for our just causes.

Shaykh Hamad called on Arabs to unite their ranks to restore "our rights which were usurped as a result of our differences and conflicts."

Referring to the recent visit by King Fahd to Washington the heir apparent called on the Arabs to invest it pointing out that the Saudi monarch had informed Arab leaders of the outcome of the visit as part of Saudi Arabia's coordination to exchange viewpoints concerning the national interest.

In an answer to a question on the Gulf security the crown prince underlined that the security of the Gulf is the responsibility of the Gulf countries themselves.

The Qatari crown prince denied existence of security agreements with Pakistan, but he said cooperation does exist with this Moslem and friendly country in various fields including military training. He pointed to Pakistan's full readiness to provide every assistance to Qatar in military training.

Concerning the joint defense strategy endorsed at the last summit of GCC leaders held in Kuwait, the crown prince said it was a major step in the joint Gulf defence field. He said "the GCC states are keen on all that provides stability, and welfare to the whole region." He affirmed this could only be achieved through self-reliance.

In a reply to a question on the long-awaited Arab summit, the crown prince called for proper well coordination and preparation if the summit is to succeed and not end in "further discords and conflicts which will benefit no one but the enemies of the Arab nation."

The situation of the Arab nation is bitter and tragic and a firm pan-Arab solidarity must be worked out by the Arab leaders to put an end to this dangerous situation, the Qatari crown prince noted. The GCC including Qatar are sparing no effort to prepare for a suitable atmosphere to hold the Arab summit and to narrow gaps between the various viewpoints, the crown prince said.

Concluding, the crown prince called on the Al-Maghreb Al-Arabi countries to do their utmost to solve all the problems they are facing and which impede their countries march of cooperation and integration.

Amir Al Thani Returns From Visit to Turkey

GF121800 Manama WAKH in English 1605 GMT 12 Mar 85

[Text] Doha, 12 Mar (WAKH) — H.H. the Amir of Qatar Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani returned home today after a three-day state visit to Turkey at the invitation of Turkish President Kenan Evren. Crown Prince and Defence Minister Shaykh Hamad ibn Khalifah Al Thani led the well wishers at Doha International Airport to welcome the H.H. the Amir. A high-level delegation accompanied H.H. the Amir during his visit to Turkey including Finance and Petroleum Minister Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz ibn Khalifah Al Thani, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Shaykh Ahmad ibn Sayf Al Thani, Advisor to H.H. the Amir Dr Hasan Kamil, Minister of Information and Director of H.H. the Amir's Office 'Isa Ghanim al-Kuwari, and Muhammad Rashid Al Khalifah, Qatar's ambassador to Turkey.

SAUDI ARABIA

Deputy Defense Minister Meets Sudanese Air Chief

LD131132 Riyadh SPA in English 1909 GMT 12 Mar 85

[text] Riyadh, March 12, SPA — Saudi Deputy Defence and Aviation Minister Prince Abdul Rahman ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz received at his office here today chief of Sudanese Air Force Air Marshal Muhiyuddin Mubruk. They reviewed bilateral relations. The meeting was attended by Saudi Air Force Commander Air Marshal 'Abdallah al-Hamdan.

Interior Minister Meets With Iraqi Counterpart

LD131120 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0900 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Text] Riyadh, 13 Mar (SPA) — His Royal Highness Prince Nayif ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, the interior minister, this morning met at his office with Iraqi Interior Minister Sa'dun Shakir, who is currently visiting the kingdom. They discussed security issues of interest to the two countries.

Iraqi Minister Departs

LD141007 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1430 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Excerpt] The Iraqi minister of interior, Sa'dun Shakir, this afternoon left Riyadh at the end of a 7-day visit to the Kingdom.

Joint Trade Commission With Iraq Ends Meeting

LD141002 Riyadh SPA in English 1238 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Text] Riyadh, March 13, SPA — The Saudi-Iraqi joint commission concluded a four-day meeting here today.

The commission's first meeting reviewed lists of commodities [word indistinct] from custom tariffs between them and decided to add 46 other commodities to the lists which included industrial, petrochemicals, foodstuff and agricultural commodities in trade exchanges between the two countries.

The meeting, which was co-chaired by Saudi finance and national economic acting under secretary for economic affairs Sa'd ibn Sa'd and Iraqi Trade Under Secretary Qubays Sa'id 'Abdul al-Fatah, also discussed ways of removing obstacles hampering trade activities between the two sides and agreed to exchange visits by businessmen and representatives of economic institutions in Saudi Arabia and Iraq.

It also decided to hold seasonal exhibitions in the two countries and called on all productive sectors to take part in these fairs.

The two sides also agreed to expand cooperation and exchange information in the field of engineering consultations.

Concerning transporation and communications, the commission has authorised parties concerned to study proposals presented during the meeting to sign a bilateral agreement for land transporation between the two countries and to establish a modern network for telephone services.

They also agreed to exchange technical expertise between the agricultural banks in the two countries.

The commission's decisions and recommendations will be submitted to the two governments for their ratification and putting them into effect.

Radio Comments on U.S. Veto, UN Resolution

LD132304 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 13 Mar 85

[From the "News And Comment" Program Presented by Husayn al-'Askari]

[Text] The United States has used its veto at the UN Security Council to thwart a draft resolution condemning the Israeli practices against the civilians in southern Lebanon.

The American veto has not come as a surprise, for all indications during the week-long discussions of the Lebanese complaint

pointed to such an American action. But what drew attention was the resolution's winning support from 11 out of the 15 member countries of the UN Security Council including France. Britain, Australia and Denmark abstained. This is a result which cannot be overlooked or disregarded.

Though the draft resolution has been thwarted, this cannot detract from the important fact that 11 countries supported the demand that the international community should shoulder its responsibilities toward the practices of the Israeli enemy, which have reached the acme of ferocity, so much so that the enemy forces in Lebanon have been storming the houses of civilians in the southern Lebanese villages and towns, firing at their inhabitants and blowing up houses with all their occupants. In the last operation, the enemy forces killed over 30 inhabitants of one village by lining them up against the wall and then opening fire at them.

Undoubtedly, such practices will trigger reactions in the form of self-defense, which is a legitimate right that the Lebanese exercise in their land against invading forces that have adopted the methods of murder and the destruction of houses over the heads of their occupants as one means to pressure the Lebanese to accept a fait accompli.

Though the failure of the international community to shoulder its responsibilities in a practical manner to put a firm and decisive end to the Israeli practices will inevitably encourage Israel to escalate its inhumane arbitrary measures against the inhabitants of southern Lebanon, what is more important, in the eyes of the observers, is Israel's feeling of immunity from punishment. This will naturally intensify the enemy's tendency to aggression, which in turn will increase the difficulties faced by the attempts to find a just, lasting solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict, on the assumption that the proof of goodwill demands numerous components.

The practical attitudes of some international powers minimize the chances, if they do not make it impossible, for a fair outlook on matters.

PDRY

Chairman 'Ali Nasir Sees Syrian Official in Moscow

GF131724 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Text] Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee and chairman of the Supreme People's Council, received at his residence in Moscow today, the Syrian delegation led by 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, assistant secretary general of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party.

During the meeting, they discussed the developing struggle relations between the two fraternal countries in light of the hostile policy of international imperialism led by the United States, which is represented by the continuous escalation of the arms race through the deployment of medium-range nuclear weapons in various parts of the European Continent against the socialist countries, headed by the Soviet Union, and through the distribution of fixed and mobile bases on land and at sea.

During the meeting, the chairman reaffirmed the PDRY's firm stance next to fraternal Syria, pointing out the imperialist assault against the Arab nation and affirming his call for reviving the steadfastness and confrontation front as a real means to confront this violent assault.

For his part, Brother 'Abdallah al-Ahmar praised the PDRY role in uniting the Arab progressive forces. He also praised the accomplishments that the PDRY has achieved under the YSP's leadership.

On the Yemeni side, the meeting was attended by Salih Munassar (al-Suhayli), member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the Central Committee; Dr 'Abdallah Ahmad Bukayr, member of the YSP Central Committee and minister of health; Ahmad Musa'id Husayn, member of the YSP Central Committee and minister of state security; and Salih Abu Bakr ibn Husaynun, member of the YSP Central Committee and minister of transport. While on the Syrian side, the meeting was attended by General Mustafa Talas, deputy prime minister and defense minister; Faruq al-Shar', foreign minister; and Muhammad 'Ali Halabi, Syrian ambassador in Moscow.

YAR

PRC Official Departs Aiter 6-Day Visit

GF131922 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Text] Li Ximing, PRC minister of urban and rural construction and environmental protection [title as heard], left Sanaa this morning after a 6-day visit to our country. During his visit he met with Brother 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani, prime minister and member of the Standing Committee. He also visited a number of governorates of the republic where he familiarized himself with the cultural and scenic features.

Li Ximing described his visit and his discussions with brother officials at the Ministry of Municipalities and Housing and the Ministry of Civil Service and Administration as successful and valuable. He said that the discussions dealt with means for developing and promoting the bilateral relations, especially in the installations and environmental protection fields. The PRC minister expressed admiration for the architectural development in our country in all fields. He also expressed thanks and gratitude for the hospitality and the good reception during his stay in our country.

He was seen off by Brother Ahmad Muhammad Luqman, minister of municipalities and housing; Brother Muhammad al-Tayib, deputy minister and member of the Standing Committee; a number of officials at the ministry; and the PRC ambassador in Sanaa.

Further on Mubarak Visit to Washington

Holds News Conference

NC140009 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1935 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Text] Washington, 13 Mar (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak announced that he came to Washington to exchange views with the United States on the situation in the Middle East, the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement, and ways of improving the chances for peace. This came in a news conference after President Mubarak's address to the U.S. Press Club.

In response to the first question on his talks with President Reagan and whether he is optimistic, President Mubarak said: Frankly, I can't tell you what took place between myself and President Reagan. However, I can say that I didn't come here to make decisions, but rather to exchange views on the Middle East situation, the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement, and ways to improve the chances for peace.

President Mubarak added: As far as we are concerned, we're doing our best to advance the peace process. We suffered a great deal for more than 30 years. That was enough. Therefore, we will work for the sake of peace, regardless of the results. Continuing, the president said: Talks with the Jordanian-Palestinian delegation are something that we need very much right now. The agreement that was reached is an important step that should not be ignored and must be exploited. I described the scenario after such an agreement. I am not asking that negotiations be held with those Palestinians who have nowhere to live. Rather I am asking only that a dialogue be conducted with them. Try to hold talks with the Palestinians as a test. Direct talks. This will be a real test. Tell them what the prospects are for peace, because without them there will be no peace.

President Mubarak added: I presented my views to President Reagan. I then discussed economic issues. I was deeply hurt when some of your newspapers said that I took this initiative to gain economic aid for Egypt.

President Mubarak said: I can tell you that it would be easy to get the money. But as far as I'm concerned, peace is the first option. That's why I told the U.S. Administration that this was my postion and that I needed your help to push the peace process forward. [Word indistinct] many ways and means toward money. But I assure you once again that the United States is our friend.

Question: The U.S. Administration has declared more than once that it will not speak to a delegation which includes Palestinians unless the PLO explicitly recognizes Security Council Resolution 242.

President Mubarak: There are tens of Palestinians with us now. Show me a man who can say for sure that this person belongs to the PLO and that one doesn't. There are some hardliners in the PLO, but the majority are educated moderates who graduated in the United States itself. If you want peace, then we must be realistic. Dialogue is the only means of paving the way for the next step. Do PLO members have any distinguishing features? They are merely Palestinians.

Question: How do you view the change in the Soviet leadership and should the Soviets be involved in the Middle East peace talks?

President Mubarak: I believe that's a difficult question. I must first tell you that the Soviet Union is a superpower. There are only two superpowers, the United States and the Soviet Union. I would be less than accurate were I to say that I have sufficient or complete information on the Soviet leadership. However, the new Soviet leadership definitely needs more time to establish itself. I can't say if it will change Soviet policy or not.

As for the international conference, I have already said that I agree to its convocation, provided all parties concerned participate. I approve of anything that would lead to a comprehensive and lasting solution to the Middle East problem. Our current aim is to achieve that goal. I don't care what means are used. Our goal is to achieve a comprehensive and just settlement. Why do you ask me about the Soviet Union? Ask the Soviet Union itself.

Question: You met with Jewish members of the House. Have you noticed any change in their position toward the PLO?

President Mubarak: I am trying to give this dialogue a chance to continue; I can say no more.

Question: Your Excellency also met with black Congressmen.

President Mubarak: When I want something broadcast, I'll ask you to treat it as confidential. I'm sure that, as far as you're concerned, this would mean publishing what I want to say in every corner of the earth. I met with that group. It also met with President al-Sadat. We always discuss Middle East developments with them; it's nothing new.

Question: What basic role can Egypt play in the peace process at this point?

President Mubarak: This is what I'm doing now. All my work during this visit is directed at making more progress in the peace process. I said more than once that we cannot set this problem aside. We must solve it in accordance with the Security Council's resolutions, including Resolution 242. King Husayn made great efforts to conclude an agreement with the PLO. The dialogue will definitely lead to direct negotiations. Negotiations cannot continue through mediators or cables. Everyone must sit at the negotiating table. We've been in touch with the Israeli Government and Jordan's King Husayn several times. We've made other efforts and I can say no more.

Question: What is the least the United States must do?

Mubarak: I tell you that the United States is a superpower. I also tell you to get in touch with the PLO and with the other parties concerned. You are a superpower and the parties concerned will feel safe when a superpower intervenes in this issue. This will pave the way for additional sound steps in the right direction. All I ask the United States to do is to provide a degree of safety for the Palestinians — for those people — to allow them to continue the peace process.

Question: Do you feel there is any hope that the U.S. Administration will change its position on talks with a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation?

President Mubarak: Everything changes. All of us change. Our [word indistinct] and everything in us changes. Why shouldn't the U.S. position change? There are several factors. There are the new agreements that we reached after some hard work. We want to solve this problem in accordance with the Security Council's resolution. We don't ask the United States for miracles; we're only asking for a dialogue. These talks will spare us a great many problems. Failure to begin a dialogue with them will open the way for more acts of terrorism. We must be realistic.

[Question indistinct]

President Mubarak: We got accustomed to these things. We know [word indistinct] more than anyone else. However, we must be frank. Yasir 'Arafat is a most moderate man and we must help him. He doesn't belong to the group that the American press calls terrorists. Give them access to U.S. television stations so they may explain their views. If 'Arafat received my proposals with some reservations, then I accept this. He is under violent attack by the U.S. Administration. The PLO has some internal problems; it has its hardliners who launch violent attacks and it has its moderates.

Question: Your Excellency's proposals make no mention of Syria. What do you see as Syria's role in this problem?

President Mubarak: I don't think the Golan Heights are a problem. Syria will be treated as Egypt was in the peace agreement with Israel. [Word indistinct] that they reject after hearing some of my proposals. However, I am a realistic and practical man and I like dealing with the fait accompli.

Question: There is talk that diplomatic relations between Egypt and Iraq might be restored. Is this currently under discussion?

President Mubarak: I will answer that question in my own way. I can assure you that I am in touch with the majority of Arab states. We exchange views, but I don't ask that diplomatic relations be restored. I am fully satisfied with our present relations. We welcome any state that wants to restore diplomatic relations with Egypt, but we don't ask for this. I was in contact with Iraqi President Saddam Husayn several times. If the issue hinges solely on the ambassador, it doesn't concern me. I don't want an ambassador.

Question: On the Iraq-Iran war, do you see any signs that it will end soon?

President Mubarak: I think this is the most complex question I've faced. The situation, as well as the reports I receive, scarcely indicate that the war will end. I believe that you, as journalists, have more information on this subject.

Question: When and under what conditions will Egypt return its ambassador to Israel?

President Mubarak: I was surprised that this question wasn't asked during my meeting with the senators. An ambassador isn't the sole element in relations; he is merely the symbol of them. I would like to tell you the whole story. When Israel began its invasion of Lebanon, I sent letters to Israel emphasizing that the invasion would create problems. The invasion had negative results. The Egyptian public took a negative attitude toward Israel and certain people demanded that relations with Israel be broken. I know that Israel made a mistake in Lebanon, the Israelis admitted it later. However, I had to respond to the public's wishes and withdraw our ambassador from Israel. We have shouldered war for 30 years. I was thinking of returning our ambassador in October, but they were violating the Egyptian-Israeli agreement on Tabah at the time. I can't understand how they withdrew from the entire Sinai and then made a national issue of this small spot. They sent forces into Tabah and this was a new violation. All the parties made statements. How could I convince the Egyptian public not to be strict with Israel?

I laid down three conditions: withdrawal from Lebanon and, thank God, they have actually begun to do so; the Palestinian issue, which is the important one; and the Tabah question. The agreement states that if differences arise between Israel and Egypt, they must be settled through consultation and discussion. If discussions fail, both parties should seek arbitration. We accept arbitration. In Egypt's view, land is sacred. Therefore, I believe I'm ready to return the ambassador once these three conditions are met.

Question: Do any of the Arab countries support the new proposals?

President Mubarak: I have been in touch with a number of Arab countries, but I don't want to embarrass any of them. There are countries that will definitely reject everything and there are others that think these proposals should be submitted to an Arab summit conference. Thus, I can't say who supports the proposals, who does not. However, they are a step forward.

Question: What is your country doing to increase U.S. investment in Egypt?

President Mubarak: We signed an agreement on guaranteeing investments yesterday and there is no problem here. I encourage the private sector and visit its projects. We have a new city called 10 Ramadan. There are scores of new projects in that area. I have actually visited some of these projects. They're very promising and need assistance from investors. I urge you to invest more.

Question: How can you make Al-Qadhdhafi adopt a moderate position?

President Mubarak: We have no problems with Colonel al-Qadhdhafi. You have a problem with Colonel al-Qadhdhafi and, therefore, it's up to you to make a decision.

Question: What about the Libyan-Moroccan agreement and does it have any effect on Egypt?

President Mubarak: I believe it is a local agreement and that Morocco is the country qualified to answer this question. I don't

think this agreement will have any impact on Egypt. It is an agreement between Morocco and Al-Qadhdhafi. It won't affect us.

Addresses Expatriates in U.S.

NC140655 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2305 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Excerpt] Washington, 13 Mar (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak met this evening with members of the Egyptian community in the United States and Canada. The meeting was attended by Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, Information Minister Safwat al-Sharif, Planning Minister Dr Kamal al-Janzuri, and Egyptian Ambassador in Washington 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Ridi. President Mubarak dealt with Egypt's domestic situation during the 90-minute meeting. He pointed out that Egypt is proceeding with calm and studied steps to avoid setbacks or stumbling blocks. President Mubarak said that Egypt's policy dictates that decisions be made at the proper time and in an appropriate atmosphere, so that their implementation may work for Egypt's economic and social interests. In his address to the representatives of Egyptian expatriates in Washington, New York, Houston, and California, as well as in Canada, President Mubarak said freedom of the press exists in Cairo on both the national and party levels.

Touching on democracy in Egypt, President Mubarak declared that freedom of opinion is also guaranteed and that excesses are handled by the courts. The president said that this works to ensure stability and security for the citizens, both now and in the future. Security encourages investment, he noted, saying that lawbreakers are always referred to the courts.

On investment in Egypt, the president said that the public and private sectors are two sides of the same coin: Thus, Egypt protects the public sector and encourages the private sector, providing it with everything necessary to guarantee its success.

President Muhammad Husni Mubarak then dealt with development in agriculture, industry, and the services sector. He said that development is in line with the 5-year plan, which is approaching its 3d year. This plan, the president said, seeks permanent rather than temporary solutions.

President Mubarak explained Egypt's foreign policy and its international relations. He also referred to Egypt's role in dealing with the Palestinian issue, which is the core of the Middle East conflict. The president stressed Egypt's continuous efforts to support the Palestinians in this context. President Mubarak then reviewed the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement signed on 11 February. His Excellency outlined Egypt's efforts to end the deadlock and to generate new momentum for this agreement. President Mubarak pointed out that Egypt's proposals seek to promote the Palestinian issue and the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people. These proposals, President Mubarak added, are intended to achieve peace in the area. Hence, he added, the importance of the U.S. role, which was the main topic in my talks with the U.S. administration.

The expatriates invited President Mubarak to visit Los Angeles and Chicago to meet with Egyptian expatriates there.

Discusses Economy at Ceremony

NC140739 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 14 Mar 85

[Speech delivered by President Muhammad Husni Mubarak on receipt of the "Man of Progress" award from the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and the Egyptian-American Businessmen's Association at the Marriott Hotel in Washington, D.C. on 13 March — recorded in English fading into superimposed Arabic translation]

[Text] It is a great pleasure to be with you and our distinguished guests. I regard this as the best farewell party I will have received in Washington. It will leave me with good memories and great hope. This gathering among friends was organized through Egyptian-U.S. cooperation, which symbolizes — or rather, represents — the cooperation between our two peoples. We do not want our mutual relations to be based on aid and grants. We hate to see our economy dependent upon foreign aid. Yet, we need aid from our friends for a short time, in view of the fact that we have been subjected to a number of problems over the last few decades, including the period of war, which lasted over 30 years and left an impact on all aspects of life, particularly our economy.

We are now trying to build our economic infrastructure. New concepts of efficient management have been introduced. We want you to be our partners in building our economy and we want to share your new technology with you. The opportunities we offer are very good. Our's is a stable country, which desires continued peace. We will make no retreat whatsoever from our open-door policy. This is a consistent policy, a political policy that will not change. We want to create more job opportunities and to increase the volume of our exports. The government alone cannot do all of this. Therefore, the private sector has a major role to play. What we need now is continuing joint cooperation with you. We are proud of the Egyptian investment sector. The private sector and Egyptian businessmen are responsible for 60 percent of the volume of investments in Egypt. They are setting a good example for investment there. The U.S. investor has now begun to join this sector, which reassures the Egyptian people.

However, I believe that the volume of investments in Egypt is not what it should be. We must cooperate together in overcoming some of the obstacles that face U.S. investment in Egypt, particularly those related to bureaucracy. Let us confront this problem and fight bureaucracy together, both in our country and in yours. Yesterday the Egyptian delegation finalized the investment protection agreement which will provide greater opportunity for U.S. investment in Egypt. It will certainly provide more guarantees for the U.S. investor in Egypt. Meanwhile, incentives have been provided in terms of customs duties. Dear friends, we are determined to continue to build our economy and there are great opportunities to do so. This will be the greatest contribution that we can offer to our people.

Departs U.S. for London

NC140926 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0830 GMT 14 Mar 85

[Excerpt] Washington, 14 Mar (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak and his wife left Andrews military base at 2115 last

night, 0415 Cairo time this morning, for London at the conclusion of a 5-day visit to the United States.

PNC Member Views Mubarak Visit as 'Positive'

NC141230 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1205 GMT 14 Mar 85

[Text] Cairo, 14 Mar (MENA) — Sa'id Kamal, member of the Palestine National Council, has reported that Palestinian-Egyptian contacts will take place following President Husni Mubarak's return from his tour of the United States and Europe to permit assessment of the results of the tour, particularly in terms of developments in the U.S. position on the issue of the Palestinian people's rights. He said that despite the views of some, he regards the general outcome of the visit as positive, especially in view of President Mubarak's affirmation of the need for recognition of the Palestinian people's right to self-determination and initiation of dialogue with a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation.

Sa'id Kamal emphasized that President Mubarak's visit to the United States and the results of his talks with U.S. officials are a good foundation for talks about the procedures for the initiation of U.S. dialogue with a Jordanian-Palestinian team in preparation for the negotiations that the Palestinians and Jordanians insist on, in accordance with Article Five of the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement seeking an international conference for peace.

AL-AHRAM on Objectives of Mubarak's U.S. Visit

NC131116 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0525 GMT 13 Mar 85

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "Zionist Claims," *AL-AHRAM* writes in today's editorial: Zionist sources, as well as some East and West media organs, claim that the primary objective of President Husni Mubarak's current visit to the United States is to increase economic and military assistance to Egypt. They are thus ignoring the fundamental compnent of President Mubarak's talks with senior U.S. officials, including President Ronald Reagan. The aim of these talks is to try to resume the peace process and to begin a dialogue between the U.S. Administration and PLO representatives in a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation.

The paper adds: Even though President Mubarak gives much attention to the financial assistance extended by Washington to Egypt, particularly after the United States has noticeably increased its aid to Israel, it is with much the same attention that the president is attempting to conciliate between what the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement calls for and the Reagan Administration's insistence on adopting the Israeli stand toward the PLO.

AL-AHRAM concludes by saying: The assistance extended to Egypt is also a support for the Palestinian issue. Any gain for the Palestinians is a gain for Egypt. It is on the basis of this premise that we can understand the true aims of President Mubarak's visit to the United States.

Ghali Returns From Geneva Drought Conference

NC132041 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1910 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Excerpt] Cairo, 13 Mar (MENA) — Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, returned to Cairo this evening after a 4-day visit to Geneva, where he attended the emergency conference on combatting drought in Africa. In an arrival statement, Dr Ghali said Egypt once again emphasized its leading role in Africa and its readiness to give technical assistance to African states that will allow them to face their economic crises. He said Egypt has set aside $3 million to send technicians and to provide Egyptian expertise. This will help implement development projects in Africa.

AL-AKHBAR on 'Right' To Receive U.S. Aid

PM121520 Cairo AL-AKHBAR in Arabic 8 Mar 85 p 1

[Sa'id Sunbul: "Increasing Aid — Why?"]

[Text] The official talks between President Mubarak and U.S. officials in Washington are scheduled to begin on Monday. The question of increasing U.S. economic and military aid to Egypt is high on the agenda. Some people may ask: What right does Egypt have to request more U.S. aid and at what price? Egypt is not linked to the United States by any pact that would entitle it to request more aid. Egypt does not allow military bases on Egyptian territory. Even the military facilities which Egypt has agreed to provide for the United States are conditional on two things: that these facilities are used for helping an Arab or Islamic state under threat of foreign invasion and that that particular state asks for U.S. military assistance. So, on what grounds is Egypt asking for additional economic and military aid?

I maintain that the aid given by the rich states to the poor states is no longer a charity and no longer a price for adherence by the developing states to the policies of the advanced states. It is now the legitimate right of the developing states to have such aid and it is the duty of the advanced states to give it. All states actually approved that principle during the first trade and development conference held in Geneva in the spring of 1964. That conference was attended by all states and it recommended at the time that the rich states should allocate 1 percent of the value of their gross national output to the developing states in the form of economic aid. On that day the aid provided by the big powers ceased to be charity and became an international obligation and that gave the developing states a legitimate and recognized right to request such aid.

Last year Egypt's revenues suffered as a result of the drop in the value of oil, the drop in income from tourism and the Suez Canal, and the drop in the volume of money transferred by Egyptians abroad. That is why Egypt has asked for more aid from the United States, which is a friendly state. In submitting such a request to the United States, Egypt does not extend a begging hand. It exercises its right to obtain aid from a rich superpower. A U.S. response to such a request would not be an act of charity but a fulfillment of an international obligation and duty to help the developing states.

Ramadan Offers Condolences at Soviet Embassy

JN131432 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1400 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Text] Baghdad, 13 Mar (INA) — Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister, visited the Soviet Embassy today to offer President Saddam Husayn's condolences on the death of Soviet President Konstantin Chernenko. In the condolence book Ramadan conveyed the sympathy of the Iraqi people and their leadership to the Soviet people and leadership over the death of President Chernenko.

'Aziz Meets Peres De Cuellar in Moscow

JN131542 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1530 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Text] Moscow, 13 Mar (INA) — RCC member and Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz met with UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar here today. The two sides discussed the recent Iranian aggression against Iraqi territory, the POW issue dabated at the UN Security Council, and Iran's premeditated violation of the June 1984 agreement.

Tariq 'Aziz and Perez de Cuellar participated in the funeral of the late Soviet President Chernenko here today.

'Aziz Leaves Moscow for Paris

JN131556 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1542 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Text] Moscow, 13 Mar (INA) — RCC member and Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz left for Paris today on a working visit of several days to France at the invitation of External Relations Minister Ronald Dumas.

Earlier today, Tariq 'Aziz participated within an Iraqi delegation in the funeral of the late Soviet president.

Reportage on Military Conflict With Iran

Communique No 1,769

JN131808 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1700 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Communique No 1,769 issued by Armed Forces General Command on 13 March 1985]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

The impotent Iranian regime imagined that it could harm Iraq's pure land, forgetting our triumphant forces' steadfastness, great determination and ability that the Iranian regime cannot confront anywhere on the battlefield. No matter how hard this regime tries, it will find only great, lofty, and victorious Iraq. It will find men who devote their lives to the homeland and principles while they are standing firm on every inch of the battlefield in order to raise the banner of victory high and in order to confirm with tangible deeds the capabilities of Iraq, whether in terms of the men's morale and their matchless courage — as these men are competing to perform their duty in defense of great Iraq, the dignity of its people, its history, and its present and future — or in terms of our forces' huge concentrations, heavy fire, perfect planning and splendid performance. Victory will be your lot, O proud Iraqis; death, bitter defeat, and humiliation to your enemies.

The following is a roundup of operations for yesterday evening and today:

1. The enemy's attempts to expand the area of its presence on the western bank have completely failed and the enemy was disappointed. The right flank commanded by Staff Brigadier General Iyad Futayyih al-Rawi and supervised by Staff Major General Sa'di Tu'mah resumed its attack on the enemy, destroying its remnants, while on the left flank the force commanded by Staff Major General Hisham Sabah al-Fakhri continued to advance. The left flank managed to destroy the enemy remnants and to confine the enemy in the direction of the marsh. It established a foothold on 'Uqdat ('Ujayridah) after having destroyed the enemy there. Meanwhile, the enemy remnants withdrew in the direction of Lisan ('Ujayridah), which is also controlled by our units. At the same time, units from the center are putting pressure on the enemy in order to narrow the area of its presence prior to exterminating it.

Staff General 'Adnan Khayrallah, deputy commander in chief of the Armed Forces, is coordinating the activities of all forces and supervising these activities in the field. He is assisted by Staff General 'Abd al-Jawad Dhannun, Armed Forces chief of staff, and Staff Brigadier General Muhammad 'Abd al-Qadir, commander of the East Tigris operations.

We will provide you with the results of today's battle later. We will also provide you with the names of some of the commanders and units participating in the battle as well as those excelling in it. Let the great Iraqi people rest assured that their enemies' destiny will most certainly be destruction, God willing.

2. This afternoon our heroic forces continued to advance considerable distances on all the axes mentioned in paragraph No 1, placing the defeated enemy forces face to face with sure death between the Iraqi fire and the water, and inflicting massive losses in personnel in both dead and wounded. The battlefield and waters were filled with thousands of bodies of the aggressors. Moreover, many enemy troops were captured, huge quantities of equipment were destroyed, and large quantities of equipment were seized.

3. In resolute attacks our Air Force planes, Iraq's striking arm, continued their raids on enemy concentrations, equipment, and vehicles in the central and East Tigris sectors, giving splendid support to our ground forces and making the enemy forces taste terrible death. Our aircraft carried out 176 combat missions today, after which they returned safely and triumphantly, praise be to God.

4. Our bold helicopter gunships continued their brave comabt operations in the Maysan and East Tigris sectors, dealing destructive blows on the enemy's defeated remnants, killing large numbers, and destroying 121 boats and 23 vehicles. Our helicopters returned to base safely and triumphantly, praise be to God, after carrying out 160 sorties.

5. Our bold fighter planes chased an enemy F-5 plane deep inside Iranian territory and managed to shoot it down over Lake Urmia in Iran. Our fighter planes returned to base safely and triumphantly, praised be God.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 13 March 1985

14 Mar Baghdad Blast

JN140921 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 0910 GMT 14 Mar 85

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] A responsible Interior Ministry source has stated that an explosive charge went off on the ninth story of the main offices of the Al-Rafidayn Bank on Al-Rashid Street at dawn today. The source added that the explosion slightly injured some of the bank guards and damaged the 11-story building. The source further said that hirelings of the Iranian regime who sold themselves to foreigners have plotted with their masters abroad and perpetrated this criminal deed.

Iranian Cities Attacked

JN141255 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1246 GMT 14 Mar 85

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] A military spokesman has stated the following:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

In answer to the aggression of the Iranian ruling criminal charlatans against our cities, our Air Force planes carried out a violent raid on selected targets in the Iranian city of Kermanshah. Our planes returned safely to base after carrying out their mission, praise be to God. Thus, since dawn today, our Air Force planes have raided three major cities in Iran. They are: The capital Tehran, Tabriz, and Kermanshah.

[Dated] 14 March 1985.

Tehran, Tabriz Bombed 14 Mar

JN140610 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 0554 GMT 14 Mar 85

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] A military spokesman has stated the following:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

While our heroic aircraft pilots are dealing destructive blows to defeated enemy forces along the frontline, our Air Force planes are also carrying daily attacks deep inside Iran in order to pounce on our criminal enemies in their own homes and inflict on the Iranian rulers their share of painful blows. Thus, at 0500 [0200 GMT] today, our Air Force planes launched a destructive air raid on the heart of the Iranian capital Tehran and on the area where the chief charlatan resides. After carrying out their mission, our planes returned safe and triumphant, praise be to God.

Our aircraft launched another raid on selected targets in Tabriz at 0400 today. Our aircraft carried out their mission with accuracy and returned safely to base, praise be to God.

Let the Iranian rulers know that Iraqi strikes will not be confined to the remnant forces that they are pushing to certain death. Our strikes will hit their heads wherever they may be and at all times.

[Dated] 14 March 1984.

Borujerd Exempt From Retaliation

JN131649 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1628 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Text] Baghdad, 13 Mar (INA) — Iraq has decided to exempt the Iranian city of Borujerd from any retaliatory military operations. An Iraqi military spokesman said today that the inhabitants of Borujerd, southwest of Tehran, recently staged tumultuous demonstrations against the Iranian regime, denouncing its continuation of the war and calling for peace. He added that the Iranian authorities used force against the city citizens, who declared that the Iranian rulers alone are responsible for the outbreak and continuation of war and for the disasters and destruction afflicting Iran.

The spokesman added: For these reasons, President Saddam Husayn has ordered the Armed Forces General Command to exempt this Iranian city from any military or retaliatory operations by Iraqi forces in reply to the Iranian regime's crimes. He indicated that this decision was made in view of the awareness, understanding, and desire for peace that the inhabitants of Borujerd enjoy. He called on the inhabitants of the other Iranian cities to express their indignation against Khomeyni's regime and to call for ending the war so that the Iraqi and Iranian peoples can live in peace and reassurance.

Siege Tightened Around Al-Hawizah

JN140946 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0808 GMT 14 Mar 85

[Text] Baghdad, 14 Mar (INA) — INA correspondent on the Hawr al-Hawizah battlefront said this morning that the Iraqi forces are tightening their siege on Iranian forces in that area, adding that the Iraqi forces are continuing to strike at the remaining Iranian force that attacked the area last Tuesday. The correspondent said: I saw Iraqi helicopter gunships striking advanced Iranian positions and fighter planes bombing their rear lines. He said that a new group of Iranian prisoners was evacuated to the rear today.

Areas Near Al-Hawizah Regained

JN140935 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0828 GMT 14 Mar 85

[Text] Baghdad, 14 Mar (INA) — The Iraqi Forces east of Basra have managed to regain the areas of Humayun and Al-Sakhrah on the edges of Hawr al-Hawizah. Stating this to INA today, a

military field commander added that the Iraqi forces captured great numbers of Iranian soldiers and wiped out most of the forces that were stationed in the two areas.

'Large Maritime Target' Attacked

JN140625 Baghdad Voice of the Masses 0606 GMT 14 Mar

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] A military spokesman has stated the following:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

To cut off the Iranian oil outlet and prevent the regime of the criminals and charlatans from exploiting its oil resources to commit aggression against our homeland and people, our Air Force planes launched a successful raid on a large maritime target near Khark Island at 0600 [0300 GMT] today, scoring accurate, effective hits. Our planes returned safely and triumphantly, praise be to God.

[Dated] 14 March 1985.

Lloyds Confirms Tanker Attack

JN141139 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1114 GMT 14 Mar 85

[Text] London, 14 Mar (INA) — A source in the British Lloyds insurance company has confirmed that a tanker called *Lady T* was hit by an Iraqi missile near Khark Island today. In a statement to INA, the source added that the 53,000 ton tanker, which was built in 1963, received a grave hit. The source did not disclose its nationality because it had recently been transferred from one company to another.

Earlier today, an Iraqi military spokesman said that Iraqi planes dealt an accurate, effective hit to a large maritime target at 0600 [0300 GMT] today.

Iranian Plane Shot Down

JN141229 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1216 GMT 14 Mar 85

[Text] Baghdad, 14 Mar (INA) — Iraq has announced that it has shot down an F-5 Iranian plane in the Al-Shib area in the southern sector of the front. An Iraqi military spokesman said that the plane attempted to infiltrate Iraqi borders in that area but was intercepted by the ground resistance of the IV Army Corps. The plane was hit; it exploded and fell in front of the Iraqi positions at 1340 [1040 GMT] today.

Basra Shelling Continues

JN140925 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0911 GMT 14 Mar 85

[Text] Basra, southern Iraq, 14 Mar (INA) — The southern city of Basra has been under continuous Iranian shell fire since last night. An INA correspondent says that the Iranian shells are falling on various parts of the city, adding that the shelling is continuing as of midday today. The correspondent noted that there were human losses and that some houses were demolished.

Commanders Comment on Battles

JN140828 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0642 GMT 14 Mar 85

[Text] Baghdad, 14 Mar (INA) — Staff Brigadier General Muhammad 'Abd al-Qadir, commander of the East Tigres operations, has stated that the Iraqi forces are continuing their concentrated strikes on Iranian units in Hawr al-Hawizah, unit that are now suffering unbearably there. In a press statement, the commander said that the Iraqi forces are in complete control in Hawr al-Hawizah, and are inflicting heavy losses on the Iranians. He added that the Iraqi forces are waging fierce battles in which the Iraqis are fighting heroically, inflicting on the enemy massive losses in men and equipment.

Another military commander said that the new Iranian offensive was aimed at reaching the Basra-Al-'Amarah road. The commander of the Isa ibn Nusayr forces, which are fighting the Iranians in the Hawr al-Hawizah area, said that the Iraqi forces had expected this attack and, therefore, were ready for it. Speaking to *AL-JUMHURIYAH* newspaper, the commander added that the Iraqi forces picked up SOS messages sent by the forward Iranian units asking for reinforcements from Iranian boats in order to give them cover for their withdrawal from in front of the Iraqi forces. He said that the Iraqi artillery and Air Force continue to pound Iranian units while the Iraqi armor, infantry, and special forces are advancing in glorious formations and perfect skill in order to pounce on the remaining Iranian forces in the area.

The commander of the Sa'd forces said that the Iranian forces began to withdraw toward Iranian territory as a result of the Iraqi forces' pressure. Staff Brigadier General Iyad Futayyih added that the Hawr al-Hawizah battles are characterized by swiftness, accurate order, and glorious cooperation among the Iraqi forces' arms. He said that the Iraqi forces are getting ready to decimate what is left of the attacking Iranian forces.

AL-ITTIHAD: USSR To Select Nuclear Reactor Site

GF121420 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic 11 Mar 85 p 6

[Report by AL-ITTIHAD correspondent in London]

[Text] The Soviet V/O Atomenergoeksport will present in June 1985 its final report on the site for the Iraqi nuclear reactor. Iraq asked the USSR to build the new reactor after the Israeli enemy attacked the previous reactor in 1981.

PRC Minister Begins Visit to Baghdad 14 Mar

JN141017 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0917 GMT 14 Mar 85

[Text] Baghdad, 14 Mar (INA) — Rui Xingwen, PRC minister of urban and rural construction and environmental protection, arrived here this morning heading a delegation on an official visit to Iraq.

During his visit, the PRC minister will hold talks with several officials dealing with ways to bolster cooperation between Iraq and the PRC in the field of housing and construction in the joint interests of the peoples of the two friendly countries.

Meets Housing, Irrigation Ministers

JN141035 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0950 GMT 14 Mar 85

[Text] Baghdad, 14 Mar (INA) — Muhammad Fadil Husayn, minister of housing and reconstruction, met today with Rui Xingwen, PRC minister of urban and rural construction and environmental protection. During the meeting, they reviewed cooperation between the two friendly countries in the fields of housing and construction.

On another level, Irrigation Minister 'Abd al-Wahhab Mahmud met with the PRC minister. They reviewed bilateral cooperation in the field of irrigation projects and land reform in the interests of the two friendly countries.

The PRC minister arrived here earlier today at the head of a delegation on an official visit.

Education Minister, Romanian Official Confer

JN102020 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 10 Mar 85

[Text] 'Abd al-Qadir 'Izz al-Din, minister of education and acting minister of higher education and scientific research, met with Mrs Radu, Romanian deputy minister of education and instruction, this morning. During the meeting, they reviewed the scope of cultural cooperation between the two countries and ways to promote it in the interest of the two friendly countries.

Parliamentary Delegation Leaves for Dakar

JN131135 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1054 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Text] Baghdad, 13 Mar (INA) — A National Assembly delegation led by Musallam Hadi, member of the National Assembly committee for legal and administrative affairs, left for Dakar today on a visit to Senegal.

During its stay in Dakar, the delegation will participate in the work of the Arab-African dialogue conference that will begin Friday, the day after tomorrow, and will last for 2 days. The conference will discuss issues related to promoting cooperation between the Arab and African parliaments.

Press Comments on Iranian Al-Hawizah Offensive

JN140847 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0620 GMT 14 Mar 85

[Text] Baghdad, 14 Mar (INA) — Two Iraqi newspapers have said that the Iranian forces that attacked the Iraqi territory of Hawr al-Hawizah will be transformed to ashes, heaps of corpses, and garbage.

In an editorial, *AL-THAWRAH* said that Iraq is determined to transform the new Iranian aggression into a military disaster that will reveal the true nature of the Iranian rulers and make them understand that their sick dreams will never materialize no matter how long they insist on continuing the war. The paper affirmed that the Iraqi soldiers will completely annihilate any forces that the Iranian regime will send because they are defending the sanctity of their homeland.

In an editorial, *AL-JUMHURIYAH* pointed out that the Iraqi forces are currently pursuing the Iranian aggressors, tearing up their concentrations, and forcing them to retreat. The paper stressed Iraq's determination to transform the new Iranian aggression into a devastating defeat that will finish them off. The paper added that Iraq's punishment this time will not be confined to crushing the aggressors, but will include pursuing and hitting them wherever they are. Iraq will continue to hammer the heads of the Iranian rulers until they are smashed.

'Ubaydat, Delegation Return From Moscow

JN131839 Amman Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Text] Prime Minister Ahmad 'Ubaydat returned to Amman from Moscow this evening after attending Soviet President Konstantin Chernenko's funeral and extending condolences in the name of His Majesty King Husayn and on behalf of the Jordanian Government and people to the Soviet leadership, government, and people. Returning with the prime minister were His Highness Prince Ra'd ibn Zayd, the chief chamberlain; Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri, and Lieutenant General Fathi Abu Talib, the chief of staff. The delegation was received at the airport by the deputy prime minister, several ministers, the Soviet charge d'affaires in Amman, and a number of senior civilian and military officials.

PRC Minister Arrives in Amman on 1-day Visit

JN131519 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1440 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Text] Amman, 13 Mar (PETRA) — Rui Xingwen, PRC minister of urban, rural construction, and environmental protection, arrived in Amman today on a 1-day visit to Jordan. In a statement to the PETRA correspondent, Rui praised the economic development and progress which Jordan has achieved in all fields, thanks to His Majesty King Husayn's wise leadership and instructions. He aiso praised the existing cooperation between Jordan and his country, as well as their good relations of friendship. He expressed hope that these relations will be consolidated through intensifying visits by officials from both countries and coordinating the two countries' stands in international organizations, especially on topics related to the South-South dialogue.

The PRC minister said that he will meet with the minister of municipal, rural, and environmental affairs and with a number of officials to strengthen cooperation between the two countries especially since his country is participating in some development projects in Jordan.

The PRC minister was received by Engineer Hamadallah al-Nabulsi, minister of municipal, rural, and environmental affairs; Engineer 'Awad al-Tal, the ministry's secretary; and the PRC ambassador in Amman.

Meets Environmental Affairs Minister

JN131608 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1445 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Text] Amman, 13 Mar (PETRA) — Engineer Hamdallah al-Nabulsi, minister of municipal, rural, and environmental affairs, has said that cooperation between Jordan and the PRC in the field of housing projects and public construction is one of the fruits of the close relations between the two countries. During his meeting with Rui Xingwen, PRC minister of urban, rural construction, and environmental protection, today the minister added that this cooperation is epitomized by the Abu Nusayr housing project and a sports complex in the city of Irbid.

The PRC minister stressed that his country considers Jordan one of its prominent friends. He said: We are eager to expand spheres of cooperation in order to serve the interests of the Jordanian and PRC peoples. Al-Nabulsi explained Jordan's experience in local administration, city planning, housing, and environmental protection. He also explained the local councils' role in national development.

The PRC minister reviewed his country's experience in these fields and invited Al-Nabulsi to visit the PRC at a date that will be set in the future. The two sides also agreed to draw up a program for exchanging expertise in the fields of local administration, environment, housing, city planning, and rural development and for exchanging visits between officials of the two countries. The meeting was attended by the ministry under secretary, the director of the environment department, the PRC ambassador in Amman, and the delegation accompanying the guest minister.

Jerusalem Mufti Says Israel Planned To Kill Kohl

JN141331 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 14 Mar 85 pp 1, 18

[By Yahya al-Juju]

[Text] Amman — His Eminence Shaykh Sa'd al-Din al-'Alami, chairman of the Higher Islamic Committee and mufti of Jerusalem, has disclosed that the Israeli occupation authorities planned to assassinate FRG Chancellor Helmut Kohl during his recent visit. In an exclusive statement to *AL-DUSTUR*, Shaykh al-'Alami said that the assassination was scheduled to take place when Kohl visited the Al-Aqsa mosque and the Dome of the Rock at his own request and when I instructed that the visit take place without Kohl being accompanied by any Israeli official.

Shaykh al-'Alami added that at midnight, some 8 hours before the visit, the Arab guards of the Dome of the Rock discovered huge quantities of weapons, explosives, and rockets that the occupation troops had hidden near a wall and covered with branches. The explosives were ready to be detonated electronically.

Shaykh al-'Alami said that when he personally informed the enemy's defense and interior ministers of the incident, some experts dismantled the explosives and transferred them away from Al-Aqsa. He added that the two ministers asked him not to announce or reveal this incident on the pretext of keeping the investigation confidential. But time passed and no results of the alleged investigation were announced. This attempt remained undisclosed and the role of the enemy authorities and Army in the incident was not exposed.

Shaykh al-'Alami explained that the aim was to try to assassinate Chancellor Kohl for agreeing to visit the Al-Aqsa mosque without being accompanied by an Israeli official. He added that the time for detonating these explosives was set for the moment the chancellor was to enter the Dome of the Rock mosque together with himself and a large number of Arab citizens who received Kohl. This shows that the attempt was not only aimed at the FRG chancellor, but also at all those who accompanied him, in addi-

tion to completely demolishing the Dome of the Rock in implementation of Israeli schemes and objectives to build the so-called Solomon's temple on the ruins of the rock.

SAWT AL-SHA'B on U.S. Veto, 'Hostile Attitude'

JN140825 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic
14 Mar 85 pp 1, 18

[Editorial: "Has Washington Reached the End of the Road?"]

[Text] By the U.S. use of the "veto" against the draft resolution condemning Israel's Nazi tactics in southern Lebanon, Washington has reached the end of the road in its biased, hostile attitude toward the principles of justice, right, and peace — an attitude that encourages the continuation of Zionist aggression against the Arab nation. Although as a superpower the United States is expected to assume a special responsibility toward carrying out the principles of right and peace in the world, it seems that the U.S. Administration has chosen an erroneous path — one that makes it an accomplice in aggression and an encourager of the spread of terrorism and disturbance in the Middle East region.

The entire international community has condemned the inhuman practices pursued by the Israeli occupation forces against the inhabitants, towns, and villages of southern Lebanon and the massacres that have been committed in one of the Arab areas under the control of the occupation authorities — practices and massacres that are similar to the ones pursued and committed in all the other occupied Arab territories. Yet, these practices continue to obtain military assistance and political cover only from the U.S. side, which today stands arrogantly and stubbornly in the dock before the Arab peoples and all world nations.

While the Arabs have announced a strong commitment to peace and opened, through the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement, a wide window for the achievement of security and stability for all the states and peoples of the region, the United States continues to retreat from its commitment to the cause of peace and to abandon its responsibilities toward playing a constructive role in any peace process and peaceful resolution of the Arab-Israeli conflict.

In fact, in light of an aggressive strategic alliance, U.S. stands are gradually turning into a firm policy of undermining the peace prospects, spreading instability, and maintaining the stalemate in the region. To say that the parties to the dispute are solely responsible for promoting the peace process and to give the influential powers a secondary role in paving the way for and achieving a peaceful settlement is a destructive, negative development and sets a serious precedent in issues that threaten the security and stability of the whole world.

This idea, which Zionist organs and pressure groups in the U.S. political arena are trying to instill in the minds of the U.S. leadership, is an attempt to further encourage the U.S. Administration to go back on its declared commitments to the cause of peace and to prevent it from adopting any stand or move toward a positive development and the achievement of peace. Consequently, this idea can only be considered a call for inaction and the pepetuation of the conflict in the region.

If Washington believes that abandoning its obligations and responsibilities toward the cause of peace serves its vital interests and that sponsoring a policy of aggression, expansion, and encouragement of Israeli designs serves its future in the region, then it is mistaken. This is because it will pay a heavy price for supporting the policy of coercion and aggression in the Middle East.

The United States will be doing a great service to peace if it takes a daring, fair step by recognizing the Palestinian people's right to self-determination and to build their own future on an equal footing with the other peoples in the region. Therefore, Washington will be mistaken if it believes that the parties concerned alone can come to an agreement while it ignores the main party to the dispute — namely, the Palestinian people — and refuses to take any move toward a dialogue that will pave the way for the comprehensive peaceful settlement which the Arab peoples are seeking and to which they have committed themselves. The next move must come from Washington. Otherwise, U.S. persistence on being negative and ignoring the basics of the conflict will be a call for inaction, a perpetuation of hostilities, and an eruption of the situation in which the region will not be the only victim.

AL-RA'Y on U.S. Response to Mubarak Proposals

JN140935 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic
14 Mar 85 pp 1, 19

[Editorial: "A Blow to Arab Peace Efforts"]

[Text] There is still no indication that the ideas carried by President Mubarak to the U.S. Administration have been received appropriately. In fact, all indications show that these ideas have been received with coolness. This coolness actually means rejection wrapped up in suitable expressions. President Reagan said that he prefers direct negotiations between the Arabs and Israel. The president was responding to President Mubarak's statement in which he called for negotiations between the United States and a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation.

It is obvious that this reply is a rejection of the ideas presented by President Mubarak during his meeting with President Reagan. This rejection responds to and is in complete harmony with the Israeli stand. Nobody has yet forgotten that Peres had enunciated this stand in the Knesset, before the Egyptian president's visit to the United States, when he said that Israel opposes any negotiations between the United States and a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation and that the alternative is direct negotiations with the Arabs without the participation of the PLO representatives and without what he termed preconditions. So here is President Reagan now repeating to President Mubarak what Peres said in the Knesset.

Needless to say, the rigid U.S. stand with which President Mubarak was received has deprived the U.S. visit of its main objective, which is to reactivate the issue by encouraging the U.S. Administration to enter into a dialogue with a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation. It is no secret that this negative development is, in itself, an attempt to curtail the Egyptian role in the Palestine question and to prove that Egypt's return to joint Arab action will not add any new weight. Undoubtedly, all this is

harmful to Egypt, to the cause, and to the peace process. It also proves that the United States' ill intentions against the cause and all Arabs will not be changed by dialogue but by an Arab reality that can make those with ill intentions pay a suitable price for their intentions and actions.

The U.S. Administration's blow to the efforts exerted by President Mubarak is a premeditated blow against the Arabs and peace. Thus, it is clear that a halt to these efforts is one of the declared aims of U.S.-Israeli strategy in the region. Essentially, this strategy is based on the assumption that the current Arab situation, which is paralyzed by disputes, will continue as it lacks any free option. This reaffirms the need for a new Arab reality that can disprove this assumption, challenge the aggressors and their allies, and lead a long, active struggle march that can put an end to arrogance, aggression, and dreams of hegemony and set the foundations for real peace in the region.

AL-DUSTUR on U.S. Stand Toward Peace Moves

JN141025 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic
14 Mar 85 pp 1, 20

[Editorial: "A Stand That Does Not Serve the Peace Issue"]

[Text] It seems that the preliminary results that have leaked from the U.S.-Egyptian summit meeting have not opened the way, in the manner peviously expected, for achieving a comprehensive and just peaceful settlement of the Arab-Israeli dispute. This is so in light of the declared U.S. reservations on holding preliminary negotiations with a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation and the U.S. Administration's continued adherence to the principle of holding direct Arab-Israeli negotiations — a condition that Israel is insisting on and making an excuse of in order to escape facing the peace option. Perhaps what is most astonishing in the U.S. stand is the cool and reserved reaction Washington has showed toward President Husni Mubarak's proposals, as well as its clear ignorance of the importance implied by the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement — an agreement that has crystallized a definite Arab vision for a just and comprehensive peace, and that has placed the other concerned parties before their responsibilities toward peace.

The reserved U.S. reaction toward the proposals that President Mubarak conveyed to Washington naturally does not harmonize with the international responsibility imposed on the United States, not only as a state enjoying UN Security Council permanent membership, but also due to its continued claims that it is the party which is able separately to achieve a just peace in the Middle East and its obstinate resistance to any other international contributions in this regard. By adhering to its previous stands even after President Mubarak's visit, the United States has wasted an opportunity that may be the last one to bring about a just, peaceful solution to the dispute. In addition, the United States has obstructed the momentum of the Arab diplomatic moves and has, perhaps, forced the Arabs to search for new options.

If the declared U.S. statements following the Egyptian president's visit represent the last word of President Reagan's administration on this subject, then we fear that the United States has openly invited an escalation of violence in the Middle East — an outcome which may serve Israeli tendencies in the short run, but portends grave dangers to U.S. interests in the region and U.S. relations with the Arab world, as well as to international security and peace in this part of the world.

Al-Jumayyil, Syrian Leaders Review Domestic Situation

NC140823 Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon in Arabic 0700 GMT 14 Mar 85

[Text] President Amin al-Jumayyil contacted Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad by telephone yesterday. They comprehensively reviewed the situation in the eastern areas and the means of dealing with it. Sources close to the presidential palace said that Damascus expressed concern about what is happening. The same sources said that the conflict is between the Arab option and other options not compatible with Lebanon's interests. Damascus urged the parties in the Lebanese regime to overcome this ordeal and not to vacillate at a time when the country is coming under an impermissible attack that should not continue.

President al-Jumayyil also contacted Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam yesterday afternoon. They exchanged views on the situation in the eastern areas. This communication was followed by others between Khaddam and Ministers Salim al-Huss, Nabih Birri, and Walid Junblatt. Informed sources said Khaddam stressed the need for supporting President al-Jumayyil and pointed out that the conflict in Lebanon is between the Arab option and other options not compatible with Lebanon's interest. According to these informed sources, the first option must be supported. Israel must not be allowed to return to north Lebanon just when it is getting ready to leave the south. President al-Jumayyil also communicated with a number of politicians. The most important were his contacts with [former] Prime Minister Sa'ib Salam, Minister al-Huss, and Minister Birri.

Birri Criticizes U.S. Veto of UN Resolution

NC131456 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1400 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Text] Minister Nabih Birri, who praised the French position at the Security Council, criticized the United States and its veto of the draft resolution condemning Israel. Birri said: We weren't surprised by the U.S. veto, but we were surprised by the unmasking of the total shamelessness of the image that controls the United States [sentence as heard]. He added: Yesterday's veto was directed not only at the children of southern Lebanon, but at the children of the world. It was a stab in the back of mankind.

Birri added: We hope the U.S. veto will serve as an incentive for the Arabs — their rulers and people — and for the nonaligned countries to adopt a position that might lead to the abolition of this right, which the great powers enjoy at the expense of the small.

VOL on Committee Formed by B'abda Conclave

NC131324 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in English 1252 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Text] At 2:30 pm the Christian conclave held at B'abda's presidential palace, which included Christian spiritual and political leaders, ended. A committee was formed to be chaired by the Maronite patriarch Cardinal Khuraysh and will include members of parliament and former Members of Parliament Mikhayil al-Dahir, Ilyas al-Harawi, Michel al-Mur, Khatchik Babikian, Jubran Tawq, and Charles Augustin. The committee will be charged with carrying out contacts in the framework of policy given by a communique to be issued later.

Bkirki Meeting Described as 'Positive'

NC131958 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1915 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Text] At the end of the Bkirki meeting this evening, Cardinal Khuraysh and attorney Na'um Farah emphasized that the session took place in a positive atmosphere. They expressed hope that the problems in the east will soon be resolved. The collective leadership called on all parties to conduct a direct dialogue with it, as the Phalangists have always solved the problems of others without having others interfere in their problems.

Lebanese Forces Command Issues Statement on Events

NC121556 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1525 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Statement issued by the Lebanese Forces' official spokesman on 13 March — read by announcer]

[Text] Within the context of following up current events, the Lebanese Forces Command Council held an emergency session today under the chairmanship of Dr Fu'ad Abu Nadir and attended by all members. The conferees discussed the latest developments involving the Christians. The Lebanese Forces Command Council emphasized the following basic principles:

The Lebanese Forces are the sole historical framework for the Christian resistance. Therefore, any handling of developments should be based on the appeal made by the Lebanese Forces commander to the Christian people at dawn today.

The Command Council affirms that the Lebanese forces are neither a means to reduce any party nor a means to topple others. The objective of the Lebanese forces are to achieve positive and constructive coordination with the various parties who are struggling to defend the security and freedom of Christian society.

The Command Council sent a delegation to the patriarchate, comprising Elie Aswad, Fawzi Mahfuz, Charles Augustine, Na'um Farah, and Samir Tawili. The delegation will brief the committee, which was formed at the end of the Christian meeting in the presidential palace at noon today, on the latest developments and on ways to resolve the problems.

Lebanese Forces Commander Promises 'Stability'

NC140704 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0415 GMT 14 Mar 85

[Text] The open meetings which the Lebanese Forces' Command Council began yesterday continued until 0100 today. Following the meetings, Lebanese Forces Commander Dr Fu'ad Abu Nadir said: We thank the Christian society which shares these critical circumstances with us and gives us its support and

confidence. We stress that the Lebanese Forces will be faithful to its promises and will implement all its commitments. Soon results will appear in the form of stability and relaxation of tension that will positively reflect on the future, freedom, and security of all Christians. The Lebanese Forces' leaders, he added, are persevering in their stead-fast work to reach the desired results.

Further on Samir Ja'ja'-Phalangist Party Feud

VOL Building Surrounded

NC131514 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 1330 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Excerpts] Fierce battles have taken place in more than one area between the followers of Samir Ja'ja', who proclaimed himself as the commander of a [word indistinct] uprising within the Lebanese forces, and the followers of Fu'ad Abu Nadir. Fighting broke out in the areas of Al-Shuf and Al-Ashrafiyah between Ja'ja' supporters, led by Michel Zuwayn, and supporters of Lebanese Forces Commander Fu'ad Abu Nadir, led by Joseph Hashim.

The clashes stopped at approximately 1330 after Zuwayn's group took control of the situation and surrounded the building where the Voice of Lebanon radio station is located. It has been reported that Ja'ja' has given direct orders to Zuwayn not to storm the radio building.

Zuwayn's followers stopped at a distance of 500 meters from the radio building. Zuwayn was hit by a splinter in the leg. 'Isam Sa'd, Munir Daw', and a third person from the Hassun family were also wounded during these clashes. Ten other unidentified persons were also wounded. More than 15 persons have been killed.

Similar clashes have taken place in Rumiiya where Ja'ja' has some supporters and in Al-Zayda where Abu Nadir's forces are stationed. Tanks were used during these clashes. The clashes soon spread to the areas of Jubaylah, Kasrawan, and Upper al-Matn where violent clashes with various types of weapons took place. It has been reported that the clashes in the Kasrawan area abated after the militias loyal to Abu Nadir managed to take control of some convents where evacuees from the north, Bshirr, Dayr al-Ahmar, Dayr al-Qamar, and Al-Damur are living.

According to reports, Radio Free Lebanon was hit when it was shelled by rockets during a counteroffensive launched by Abu Nadir's followers in an attempt to regain the radio station from Ja'ja's followers.

It is recalled that an expanded meeting was held today at Juniyah port under Ja'ja's chairmanship. After the meeting, Ja'ja' proclaimed himself as commander of a revolutionary uprising at the head of a new military command of the Lebanese Forces, which includes Nizar Najarian, Elie Hubayqah, and Joe Iddih.

After this meeting, Ja'ja' and members of his new command went to the house of [late President] Bashir al-Jumayyil where an expanded meeting was held with Solange al-Jumayyil. Hundreds of persons gathered in front of the house during the meeting carrying photographs of Bashir al-Jumayyil and Ja'ja'. They shouted slogans supporting dealings with Israel.

Ja'ja' Militiamen Extend Control

NC132027 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 1730 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Text] According to the latest reports from our sources in East Beirut, tension still prevails in Al-Ashrafiyah following the resumption of fighting between the disputing parties. Machineguns and rockets were used in the fighting, which was centered in Karm al-Zaytun, near Hotel Dieu and Al-Rum Hospital. There were some casualties. We have just received a report stating that military vehicles were seen roaming the streets of Al-Ahsrafiyah and that pictures of Samir Ja'ja' are being put up. Our reports confirm that militiamen loyal to Samir Ja'ja' control the area between the Al-Dawrah roadblock, manned by the Lebanese Army, and the Al-Barbarah checkpoint, held by the Phalangists.

In addition, militiamen loyal to Ja'ja' have taken control of most Phalangist centers. These include Section 10 of the Military Council, the Al-Ashrafiyah barracks, the (?Lazaro) center, and the Sodeco and Al-Sakhrah centers.

Our reports state that fighting broke out in the Al-Dawrah area and ended with the surrender of Al-Dawrah's personnel to men from northern Al-Matn. It should be recalled that the events in the eastern parts of Beirut were preceded by several meetings between Ja'ja' and his command. Special attention is drawn to the meeting with Solange al-Jumayyil and to a meeting in occupied Jerusalem with certain Israeli officials for the purposes of coordination and preparation. Informed sources say the decision to dismiss Ja'ja' was a result of these meetings.

Machinegun, Sniper Fire Exchanged

NC140746 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 0530 GMT 14 Mar 85

[Text] There were no significant military developments during the night after Samir Ja'ja's' supporters took control of all Phalangist barracks and party centers, except for some in northern Al-Matn held by those who support Fu'ad Abu Nadir. The supporters of Ja'ja' took control of Al-Ashrafiyah Furn al-Shubbak and 'Ayn al-Rummanah last night following armed clashes in the areas of Karm al-Zaytun and the Hotel Dieu, where several people were killed or wounded.

The two parties exchanged sniper fire in the night in Bikfayya and Al-Qulay'at, while machinegun fire was exchanged in the areas of Dubayya-Nahr al-Kalb and in the Al-'Abd Square. Meanwhile, military vehicles belonging to Ja'ja' patrolled the areas under their control in East Beirut, holding pictures of Ja'ja' and the late Bashir al-Jumayyil and posters bearing slogans denouncing Abu Nadir's policy.

It was reported a little while ago that Squad 75 of the Lebanese Army, which supports President al-Jumayyil, moved this morn-

ing from Al-Hazimiyah to the area of the Nahr al-Kalb tunnel, where all roads have reportedly been cut.

'Complete Calm' Reported

NC132301 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 2215 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Text] Complete calm now prevails in the areas of 'Ayn al-Rummanah, Al-Ashrafiyah, Kasrawan, and Jubayl. Meanwhile, the northern Al-Matn coastal road is cut in both directions, as is the Bikfayya-al-Qulay'at road.

In another development, reacting to remarks by the U.S. State Department spokesman, a spokesman for the Collective Command of the Lebanese Forces said: What is now taking place is neither an internal dispute among Christian factions nor harmful to Lebanon's sovereignty and independence. The purpose of these events is to consolidate and support that independence and sovereignty.

Militia Spokesman Outlines Demands

LD132012 Paris Domestic Service in French 1800 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Text] There was an absentee at Chernenko's funeral, a distinguished absentee: Amin al-Jumayyil. At the last minute President al-Jumayyil of Lebanon canceled his trip to Moscow. He stayed at home in Beirut to face up to a grave crisis: Samir Ja'ja', leader of the Christian militia, closely linked to Israel, has rebelled. It is a genuine insurgency: The Christian militiamen took advantage of the night to seize several parts of Beirut and other strategic points. The president's followers erected roadblocks soon after. Gunfire and even rocket fire were heard at noon in the eastern quarter of Beirut.

Our correspondent Alain Menargues interviewed the militia spokesman, Andre Germanos, who announced a real Christian revolution in Lebanon:

[Begin Germanos recording] In addition to very precise political demands, we also demand recognition of the existence of a Christian people in Lebanese territory, its existence with a capital E that is, with its right to self-determination, its right to be different. Yes to a dialogue with the others, but a recognition of our existence first, in accordance with the principles concerning the recognition of any people and especially the UN Charter. Bashir al-Jumayyil said we have defended ourselves as Lebanese, but we have very well understood that in the East, God is greater than politics. A person is Christian first, then Lebanese; a person is Druze first, and then Lebanese; a person is Shi'ite first, and then Lebanese. What matters is that today we have decided to exist and we are going to defend ourselves as Christians, in the continuation of a 1,300-year-old struggle against an Islam that has always wanted to consider us as second-class citizens.

The president must choose: At a certain point the freedom and right of the Christian people pass above all considerations. We will not allow anyone to monopolize the Christians' power of decision, to hold in our hands what 5,000 of our martyrs built, and we will defend the right of our peoples against internal enemies, and with the same fierceness against external enemies. [end recording]

VOL Denies Phalangists Occupy B'abda Palace

NC131459 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1415 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Text] A security source has denied a report by one of the radios to the effect that members of the Phalangist Party have occupied B'abda Palace. The source described the news as completely untrue.

Soldier Killed During Fighting in Suq Al-Gharb

NC132144 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 2115 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Text] The guarded calm along combat lines in the mountains has been disrupted by sniper and machinegun fire. Socialist gunmen aggravated the situation at noon today when they shelled positions held by the Army and disengagement forces in Suq al-Gharb, [name indistinct], and Bsaba. Residential areas in Humal, Bdadun, and 'Ayn al-Sayyidah were also shelled. The Army returned fire with appropriate weapons. An isolated setback took place this evening when a Lebanese soldier was martyred in Suq al-Gharb.

Israeli Force Surrounds 2 Towns in South

NC131607 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Text] A mechanized Israeli force surrounded Al-Himarah and Al-Bustan at 0930 this morning. The force opened heavy fire when it entered the town. The force gathered the male inhabitants in the schools of both towns and began questioning them.

The International Red Cross and reporters were prevented from entering the towns. Both areas are still surrounded. Intermittent explosions, believed to be the result of blowing up houses, are being heard. Israeli occupation forces surrounded Hayy al-Raml in Tyre at 1200 today and arrested Hisham Shami.

1 Dead, 1 Wounded in Israeli Raid; Target Missed

NC131540 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1515 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Text] According to our Al-Biqa' correspondent the target of the Israeli raid at 1350 was a building which housed a tank company attached to the General Command. The building is located behind a match factory in Ta'nayil. The raid lasted 3 minutes.

Two rockets were fired, but they missed the building. However, the building's guard, a Palestinian, was killed by fragments. Another person was wounded and was moved to the Palestinian Red Crescent Hospital in Barr Ilyas. Syrians and Palestinians have surrounded the building that was the target of the raid.

Resistance Fighters Attack Israelis in Tyre Area

NC140727 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 14 Mar 85

[Text] Lebanese national resistance fighters carried out two successive operations at dawn today against Israeli occupation force posts in the Tyre area. The number of enemy casualties is unknown because the area was sealed off.

Hezbollah Vows To Expel U.S., Eradicate Israel

NC131745 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1733 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Text] The Hezbollah Party held a news conference today, which it used to lay out its objectives. These include the expulsion of the United States from Lebanon, the eradication of Israel, the trial of the Phalangists, and the overthrow of their regime, as the party put it.

TISHRIN Interviews Amal Official on Resistance

PM131600 Damascus TISHRIN in Arabic 5 Mar 85 p 5

[Interview with Khalil Hamdan, "An Amal Official in Southern Lebanon," by Samir Sarim, 'Izz al-din Nabulsi, and Muhammad al-Rifa'i in southern Lebanon — date not given]

[Question] As an Amal official in southern Lebanon, how do you view your part in bringing about an Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon, and is that comparable to the Israeli withdrawal from Sinai?

[Hamdan] This is perhaps the first Israeli withdrawal from an Arab territory under resistance pressure and as a result of real fighting against Israel. What happened in Sinai was the Zionist enemy's way of eliminating the military gains made by the Arab forces. The withdrawal from the south was not the result of subservience or of a plot. I recall that after its occupation of the south in 1982, Israel made an offer to the Amal leadership and to me personally via some other people. It offered to withdraw completely from southern Lebanon provided the Amal officials (only those in the south) agreed to maintain security in this area in Israel's interest. Our immediate reply was: Stay 20 or 50 years, if you can, because we will never bargain over this matter.

[Question] How do you assess the attitudes of the Arab states toward the cause of the steadfast south?

[Hamdan] Israel has been launching a real war of annihilation and shelling our villages since 1982. Since Israel announced the success of its Peace for Galilee operation, the Lebanese national resistance has been demonstrating heroism in areas where Israel is present in all its might. However, the attitude of most Arab states has been one of complete disregard. It would not be unfair to say that this disregard is a part of the international plot against the national resistance. However, the Lebanese national resistance and Amal in particular have a main reservoir which keeps them going. That reservoir is the part played by Syria in this connection. Nobody can deny Syria's contribution in this respect.

[Question] 'Arafat has claimed responsibility for some of the operations carried out by the Lebanese national resistance. As southerners who have lived under Israeli occupation and know the people who have been resisting the occupation, what is your reply to 'Arafat's claims?

[Hamdan] The answer is the number of Lebanese national resistance members in the Al-Ansar camp. Our proof is the numerous major operations carried out and the number of martyrs who fell while resisting. Everybody knows that out of 1,500 detainees in the Al-Ansar camp, 1,200 are Amal members. All the martyrs who carried out suicide operations were members of the Amal movement. Where there is resistance there are casualties, detentions, and martyrs. I challenge anyone to name an 'Arafat follower who has been detained, wounded, or martyred. In fact I have not heard of any Palestinian brother martyred in this area. All the cards are open and clear and there is no need to say that such a claim is true or false. Everyone knows what is going on in the south.

[Question] Israel has claimed and is still claiming that its withdrawal from the south would create a security vacuum which would lead to sectarian massacres. As members of the resistance, how do you view the chances of success for such Israeli threats?

[Hamdan] Since announcing its withdrawal plans, Israel has been claiming that sedition and massacres would occur and that it would not be responsible for what happens. [Israeli Foreign Minister] Shamir even even spoke at the White House about these imminent massacres, but we in the Amal movement and the Lebanese national resistance have kept completely cool about that because we did not want to fall into the Israeli propaganda trap and devote all our energies to preventing infighting or differences. The point is that we fully understand the nature of the current conflict in the south. It is a conflict between the Lebanese national resistance and its allies on one side and Israel and its agents on the other.

Amal movement leader Nabih Birri has stated that the Israeli withdrawal is in fact a redeployment of forces and that the real withdrawal takes place when all the south is liberated. That will undoubtedly happen because the Lebanese national resistance is now preparing for quality operations inside the occupied territory. You must have heard about the Lebanese national resistance's heroic daily operations and how our people are facing the enemy's tanks and planes. In brief, we will concentrate on quality operations.

[Question] Withdrawal of enemy forces has been your primary concern, but what are your ambitions today?

[Hamdan] The redeployment of Israeli forces outside Sidon does not mean salvation for the entire south. There is still a major duty for our sincere brothers in the Sidon area to perform. They should be the main source of support for the Lebanese national resistance and they should contribute to the liberation by supporting our brothers inside. The Lebanese Government must adapt itself to the atmosphere of Lebanese national resistance and must not retreat. We are not imposing any conditions on the Lebanese Government. What we ask for is obvious. There would be no justification for the presence of the Lebanese Army if it did not

resist the Zionist enemy and prevent it from returning to this area. We emphasize that the unity of the Army will begin when it loses its first martyr on the confrontation lines with Israel.

Shi'ite Leader Discusses Jihad Against Israelis

PM131608 Paris AL-NAHAR AL-'ARABI WA AL-DUWALI in Arabic 11-17 Mar 85 pp 17-19

[Interview with Shaykh Muhammad Mahdi Shams al-Din, deputy chairman of the Lebanese Higher Shi'ite Council, by 'Ali Hamadah in Beirut — date not given]

[Excerpts] In this interview, His Eminence Shaykh Muhammad Shams al-Din discusses his call for a jihad and resistance against Israeli occupation and explains the circumstances and the factors that have driven him to declare a defensive jihad and its legal and political implications. He also explains his call to the Christians to participate in the resistance against Israel.

The following is text of the interview:

Question: A few days ago you called for a defensive jihad against Israel. This is the second time you have called for a jihad since the declaration of general civil resistance on the occasion of 'Ashura' [month of Shi'ite mourning] of the Hegira year 1404. Would you explain to us the causes and objectives of this call?

Answer: First of all, a defensive jihad means a jihad. The legitimate jihad prescribed in the Koran, the prophet's tradition, and the studies of senior jurisprudence experts is for defense. Probably some people so describe it in order to differentiate it from the initial [ibtida'i] jihad which is carried out to spread Islam and the Islamic creed. But this does not concern our present situation. Initial jihad means a declaration of war to spread the Islamic creed.

From the beginning of the Israeli occupation we faced this problem by resorting to prohibition and issuing rulings on prohibition, prohibition of dealing [with Israel] in any form, of cooperation, and of loyalty. We have been and still are open to any political or diplomatic efforts that would lead to liberation. We are not warmongers or terrorists. I insist on reiterating denial of this accusation, which Israel, the United States, some European countries, and many who are biased against Islam and the Arabs level against us — namely that we are terrorists. We are not terrorists. We have not attacked or harmed Israel, despite the fact that it occupies our country and our land. Palestine, too, is our country and our land. Still, neither as a state, nor as a regime, nor as a people have we in Lebanon attacked or fought Israel. In other words, we have not exercised our right to fight it, out of care for our safety and security. It was Israel that invaded our land, destroyed our properties, killed our children, and sought to restructure Lebanon in the form of an Israeli institution and an appendage to Israel and to establish a regime loyal to it.

We have welcomed and still welcome any political or diplomatic effort that would lead to liberation. We have tried to make our people aware of the prohibition of dealing with Israel because the state of enmity between us and Israel is established and based on principles and on the fact that Israel is a usurping entity. We appealed to the world community, to individual countries, and to the Security Council and the United Nations to seek to evict Israel from our land. The result was that it did not leave and, therefore, we prepared ourselves for resistance. We have launched the resistance, but have also been in contact with international quarters, both countries and institutions, in order to warn them and explain to them that this situation cannot continue.

Nevertheless, we have heard nothing but promises, wishes, and advice while Israel has continued its occupation. We have therefore declared resistance or rather unveiled it in the well-known 'Ashura' speech of the Hegira year 1404. Resistance has become a jihad above ground and not underground. Resistance as it stands now is without institutions and without leaders and will remain so; in other words it is a people's resistance or a people's liberation war, if you like.

The launching of resistance is based on our fundamental right to resist and repel injustice and end the occupation. Meanwhile we have been amenable to every political and diplomatic effort that would put an end to war between us and Israel, the war that is still continuing. I have often said that the war between us and Israel is not over yet, but no results have been achieved. [as published] The May farce was staged, the farce of the first negotiations on which agreement was reached behind the scenes between those in government and the Begin government in Israel. This is a known fact to all.

This took place in Khaldah and in Qiryat Shemonah, but we did not approve of this and we informed them of our disapproval of the negotiations because there is no legitimate or moral basis for negotiations. There is no authority in the government or outside it that can deal with a situation affecting all Arabs and Muslims. Moreover, there was nothing to negotiate about. What there is is a robber that has broken into a house; you do not negotiate with a robber. A robber is either expelled or leaves of his own will. You know what happened after the May agreement and the results achieved thanks to the blessed efforts of all those concerned, the efforts that toppled the agreement which, as President al-Asad said, was a capitulation agreement. Still Israel did not learn from this lesson; nor did the United States, the principal godfather of occupation and the cause of every harm that has befallen us at the hands of Israel. Nor did Europe learn this lesson. Therefore Israel has continued with its aggression and its plan to fragment Lebanon and to create sectarian seditions, in other words to destroy Lebanon.

Then the second round of negotiations [in Al-Naqurah] took place and we warned against their outcome and predicted their failure because Israel wants clear recognition; in other words, to have others sit the same table with it which would be a recognition of it as a party enjoying international, political, and moral legitimacy. We do not recognize Israel as enjoying any legality, neither in itself nor in its occupation of our country.

We shall resist in order to achieve full and absolutely unconditional liberation. I reiterate the term "unconditonal" as I hide no other meaning behind it. But at the same time the experience of the past years has taught us to expect nothing from anyone. We cannot sit and wait for the United States to do something, or for

the Arab world, Europe, or the United Nations to do something because we have seen in Palestine and in all the occupied Arab territories the results of waiting, which, in my view, is aimed at giving Israel an opportunity. Israel indulged in its actions and the United States did likewise.

The forces of the latter came here on the pretext of protecting civilians and helping the legitimate or the so-called legitimate authority to be in control. The result was that the United States used its arms to attack us; it killed us and destroyed our houses in the mountain area and in Beirut and its suburbs. Our appeals fell on deaf ears. For its part Israel also flexed its muscles and bared its claws to intimidate us with the killing of innocent people, repression, and dispersion. In our view and in the view of all the Islamic ulemas it is not only our right to resist, but also to carry out a jihad. For this reason resistance has been a jihad right from the first day, from the first shot fired at an Israeli soldier or an Israeli vehicle. This action has always been based on the right of the wronged to shout and to defend. This is the jihad which we call comprehensive resistance.

With regard to the question of a jihad from the standpoint of its being an Islamic concept and creed, I did not put it to the Christians because they do not believe in Islam and I did not wish to get involved with the Christians on a matter of conscience. But because it has become our national and human duty — and we are humans with dignity — I have appealed to and asked the Christian citizens to join the comprehensive resistance, because the real jihad is not only to liberate Muslims but to liberate all Lebanese. For this reason, and because I did not want to cause an affront to Christians, I did not address the jihad speech to them. I addressed the jihad appeal to Lebanese Muslims and the resistance appeal to Lebanese Christians.

Question: Would you say that Israel will be secure behind its borders and, if so, does this not conflict with the strategic aim of the Arabs and the Muslims, which is to pursue the Israelis wherever they may be?

Answer: We say no peace with Israel on our territory. We are now facing a specific problem, which is the Israeli occupation of our land. As for the other issues, they are not relevant at present.

Question: But you have said on many occasions that what distinguishes the Arab-Israeli conflict from other conflicts is the fact that it is a conflict of ideologies and not policies, because the Arab-Israeli conflict is ideological, cultural, and historical but not political. Which means that it cannot be bounded by time and place and will continue until either party disappears.

Answer: With regard to this point I would say that the problem with Israel as a whole does not concern us alone. In this regard we stress the inevitability of conflict with Israel as both Arabs and Muslims. As for the question of Lebanon and the occupation, this is the concern of the Lebanese alone.

Casualties Reported in Al-Rawshah Explosion

NC131558 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1515 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Text] An explosion occurred near the (Malhanivar) nightclub on Australia Road in Al-Rawshah shortly after 1630 today. According to security reports, the explosion was the result of a car bomb. Preliminary reports say there were seven casualties. Other reports say three people were killed and seven others were wounded in the blast.

Al-Asad Offers Condolences at Soviet Embassy

JN131951 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1910 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Text] Damascus, 13 Mar (SANA) — President Hafiz al-Asad visited the Soviet Embassy in Damascus at 2000 today to offer his condolences on the death of Soviet President Konstantin Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. The president was received by Soviet Ambassador Felix Fedotov and Soviet Emabssy staff.

The president wrote the following in the book of condolences: On the death of Comrade Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, I offer my condolences to the CPSU Politburo and Central Committee, the Soviet Government, and Chernenko's family.

The President added: Comrade Chernenko was a struggler who exploited his experiences for the USSR, the issue of peace, socialism, and friendship between the USSR and other peoples struggling against imperialism and Zionism. I am confident that Syrian-Soviet friendship will continue to develop, and we, in Syria, will continue to work to achieve this goal. I am also confident that the Soviet leadership will continue to work to achieve this goal too. I hope the USSR will achieve more progress and success.

The president then asked the Soviet ambassador to convey his condolences and sympathy to the Soviet leadership and people on the death of President Chernenko. The president and the ambassador exchanged views on the relations of friendship and cooperation between the two friendly countries. The president asserted his concern to continue developing and strengthening these relations.

On his departure, the president was seen off by the Soviet ambassador and the Soviet Embassy staff.

Al-Kasm Sends Condolences

JN131356 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1300 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Text] Damascus, 13 Mar (SANA) — Prime Minister Dr 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm has sent a cable of condolences to USSR Council of Ministers Chairman Nikolay Tikhonov on the death of Comrade Konstantin Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

The cable says: Comrade Chernenko was a socialist struggler who fought throughout his life in support of progress, justice, and peace and who worked to strengthen relations of friendship and cooperation between Syria and the USSR and to support the struggle of Syria and the Arabs against the Zionist and imperialist schemes. This cable expresses the Sryian Government's heartfelt condolences and sympathy.

Cabinet Announces 3-day Mourning

JN131404 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1335 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Text] Damascus, 13 Mar (SANA) — The Cabinet issued a decree today that flags on all government buildings and institutions will be flown at half-mast for 3 days as of tomorrow, Thursday, to mourn the death of Konstantin Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

Al-Asad Receives Manescu, Message From Ceausescu

JN141200 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 14 Mar 85

[Text] Damascus — President Hafiz al-Asad received Romanian Vice President Manea Manescu at 1130 today. Manescu gave the president a message from Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu.

AL-THAWRAH Examines U.S. Veto in UN on Lebanon

JN140913 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0700 GMT 14 Mar 85

[Text] Damascus, 14 Mar (SANA) — *AL-THAWRAH* says: The United States has proved once again that its biased policy toward Israel is a threat to security and stability in the Middle East, since Washington's blind defense of Israel's crimes and terrorist practices in the area has created an extremely grave and complex situation.

In its comment today under headline "The U.S. Veto Is Directed at Capitulation Advocates," the paper explains: The U.S. use of the veto in the UN Security Council to prevent the international community from condemning the barbaric acts perpetrated by Israeli forces in southern Lebanon, proves that the United States is an accomplice in Israel's crimes and any aggression carried out by it in the area.

AL-THAWRAH says: Washington's disregard for the United Nations and its resolutions in such a grave manner could threaten international peace and security. To the Arabs, this veto exposes the reality of the advocates of capitulation and the relinquishment of the pan-Arab cause.

AL-THAWRAH concludes: This U.S. veto is directed at 'Arafat, Mubarak, and Husayn who appease the United States and defend its biased policy toward Israel. The price here will not be theoretical, since the United States is serious about turning this veto into a bigger veto against the area.

Peres To Visit U.S. in April; U.S. Aid Expected

TA140930 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 14 Mar 85 p 1

[Report by Arye Tzimuqi]

[Text] Prime Minister Shim'on Peres will pay an official visit to the United States during the second half of April. He will be the guest of President Reagan and of U.S. Jewry, which will hold the annual Israel parade in New York on 21 April.

Apparently during Peres' visit, the President will announce his intention to acquiesce to Israel's request for $800 million emergency aid.

Peres Comments on Relations With Soviet Union

TA140937 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 14 Mar 85 pp 1, 8

[Report by Arye Tzimuqi, Bina Barzel, and Dani kipper]

[Excerpt] the Israeli Government did not send a letter of condolences to the Soviet Union following the death of Konstantin Chernenko, nor did it send a letter of congratulations to Mikhail Gorbachev upon his election. This follows top level consultations in which it was decided that sending such letters would amount to hypocrisy.

After Jerusalem received the news of Chernenko's death, a suggestion was raised to send a letter of condolences to the Kremlin, as a sign of Israel's desire to maintain some kind of contact with the Soviet Government, and perhaps even to turn over a new leaf in bilateral relations upon Gorbachev's election. In consultations, however, it was emphasized that during Chernenko's time there was a sharp increase in anti-Semitism in the Soviet Union, and immigration activists were harassed. Therefore, sending a letter of condolences upon his death would amount to hypocrisy.

At the same time, however, Prime Minister Shim'on Peres expressed the hope that Mikhail Gorbachev will show a more balanced position vis-a-vis the Israeli-Arab conflict. Answering a question on what message he would like to convey to the Soviet Union's new leader, Peres said that he would be pleased about Soviet participation in the Middle East peace process, but only on condition that it renews diplomatic relations with Israel.

Wilner Meets Gorbachev At Funeral Ceremony

TA131631 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Text] In the course of a reception in honor of the heads of the foreign delegations, which followed Chernenko's funeral, Gorbachev talked to RAKAH Secretary General Knesset Member Me'ir Wilner. Journalist Leon Zehavi has told the Voice of Israel that their meeting was cordial, and that Gorbachev told Wilner he remembers him well from party conventions in Moscow.

Kimche Holds Meeting With Ghali in Geneva

TA131223 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 13 MAR 85

[Text] Foreign Ministry Director General David Kimche met wtih Butrus Ghali, the Egyptian minister of state for foreign affairs, in Geneva. Our correspondent Gid'on Remez has learned that the two talked for approximately 2 hours on various bilateral issues, as well as on recent developments in the Middle East.

Peres on Importance of Security Strip in Lebanon

TA131502 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1445 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Text] The prime minister believes that it is necessary to continue to have control over a security strip in Lebanon near the international border on Israel's northern frontier.

[Begin Peres recording] I think a security strip should be maintained, and I believe that this is for the benefit of the inhabitants themselves, and from our standpoint naturally it means helping the northern part of the Galilee. It is necessary to maintain a strip in southern Lebanon, and guarantee the presence of an army of southern Lebanon. [end recording]

Shim'on Peres is also convinced that the IDF will find the appropriate solution to that type of terrorism called Shi'ite terrorism. Our correspondent Shlomo Raz reports that the prime minister said the above during a tour of the Israel Police headquarters.

Comments on Pullback Timetable

TA131506 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1447 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Text] Prime Minister Shim'on Peres says that the withdrawal from Lebanon is motivated by operational and logistic considerations. I am convinced, Peres said, that the IDF is fast enough in doing its job. For its part, the Cabinet set no timetable for the withdrawal, or mentioned the duration of the stay in Lebanon; the IDF should set the time for the pullback. Referring to the Air Force raid in Al-Biqa' today, the prime minister said: We had concrete information about the base that was attacked. We do not need to wait for the terrorists to attack us first; we will pursue preemptive strikes in the future, too, even if we only have information like we had this morning. Shim'on Peres said this in the course of a visit to the Israel Police today, and this report was filed by Alon Diskin.

Defends Lebanon Raids

TA131806 Jerusalem Television Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Interview in Hebrew with Prime Minister Shim'on Peres by unidentified correspondent after his tour of the Israel Police headquarters in Jerusalem on 13 March — videotaped]

[Excerpt] [Correspondent] Sir, in light of the latest events in Lebanon, do you think that the withdrawal of the IDF from that

country should be advanced, and unite the second and third phases of the withdrawal?

[Peres] Since there has not been any decision to delay the withdrawal, there is no need to advance it. The considerations for the withdrawal are operational and logistic, and I am convinced the IDF is fast enough. The Cabinet for its part set no period of time for the stay; the IDF should set the time for the withdrawal. I am convinced that it is doing this as fast as possible. I also think one should be careful not to create an unnecessary and uncalled-for atmosphere of panic.

[Correspondent] Do you believe the heavy-handed policy toward the Shi'ite population should be continued, and do you think that this policy has proved itself worthwhile?

[Peres] I am not too fond of the term "heavy-handed." The IDF is not employing a heavy-handed policy; it is employing measures of self-defense. We are misrepresenting ourselves, creating a misleading image of ourselves. If, for example, as was the case in the last village raided by the IDF, we learned that there was a terrorist concentration there, a vast cache of arms and ammunition — this should be captured, and we should not wait until they fire at us, since this is what they do. In the last search, approximately 70 Kalashnikov rifles were captured, as well as mines, light antitank missiles, RPG's, about 400 kg of explosives — truly a real abundance. It is only natural for an army to defend itself. I think all the citizens should support the army.

[Correspondent] Sir, yesterday you said that a withdrawal to the international border is no guarantee for the cessation of Shi'ite terrorism, and that even after the withdrawal the IDF may continue to be a target for attacks. How do you think Shi'ite terrorism should be handled?

[Peres] You did not quote me precisely: I said that dangers will exist in the future as well, and there is no guarantee that the Shi'ites will continue their business after that. There is absolutely no such guarantee, just as there is no guarantee that if we stayed in Lebanon there would not be any attacks against Israel. That is what I meant. In general, I believe we are capable of defending Israel's border from inside the country, of course with the aid of the army of southern Lebanon and other measures, such as the mobile defense system. I am sure we will do this in the best possible manner.

Peres Addresses Youth Leaders on Lebanon

TA132110 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 2059 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Text] Dead Sea, 14 Mar (ITIM) — Prime Minister Shim'on Peres believes that after the IDF withdraws from Lebanon, Shi'ite terror will not act against Israel since the Shi'ites will be engaged in domestic problems in Lebanon.

This was said by the prime minister this evening, in a speech before young Jewish leaders during the Second International Young Leadership Assembly held at the Moriah Hotel on the Dead Sea shore.

Asked about the duration of the withdrawal from Lebanon, the prime minister said this concerns the military and not the political elements. The government has already adopted the decision to withdraw from Lebanon, and the withdrawal will then last for as long as it will take the IDF to carry it out. "All the time necessary for the IDF to do so is given it. We are not leaving Lebanon in a panic, nor are we fleeing from there," he said.

Talking of Israel's main task in the coming period, Shim'on Peres said he views the main task in bringing about peace. The second goal is to ensure that Jews in the diaspora remain Jews.

Mr Peres also referred to the Syrian Army's military buildup, saying that the number of Syrian planes has lately exceeded the number of planes possessed by the Israeli Air Force.

Rabin on Defense Cuts, Regional Alliances

TA132042 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1955 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Excerpts] Tel Aviv, 13 Mar (ITIM) — Next year cuts will be effected in reserve duty calls. The men will serve less days in training, and the entire reserve service will be used for training, so that a situation in which the reservists will not be busy will never happen. This was stated today by Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin in reply to a question addressed to him at the center of the Labor Party's young guard, held at the "Rishoney Po'aley Tziyon" house in Tel Aviv.

Rabin said that the Syrians have prevented all arrangements in Lebanon, and that it is impossible to reach an agreement or a settlement with the Shi'ites through Syria.

He said there is no government in Lebanon that can adopt a resolution independently, because Syria rules there. Talk of peace with Syria cannot be imagined in the near future. This leaves only Jordan, which in reality is the only partner with which it is possible to discuss peace. "The government has a single objective, and that is to have reasonable security along the northern border, without this requiring an IDF presence in Lebanon," he said.

He noted that because of the Iraq-Iran war, Iraq and Jordan have grown more friendly, as Jordan is the Iraqi lifeline to the world outside. Iraq and Egypt are likewise getting closer to each other. The PLO was expelled for good from Lebanon by the Syrians. 'Arafat first crawled to Mubarak, and then to Husayn. He knew that if he stayed in Libya another 2 years, he would be forgotten. That is why he is making sure that he remains close to Israel.

Iraq, Jordan and Egypt, backed by the oil countries, have isolated Syria. Syria wants to perpetuate its war against Israel, while the other Arab countries support ending the conflict by peaceful ways, the minister said.

The speaker added that terrorism in Lebanon has been developed both by the Shi'ites as well as by other groups. Shi'ite terrorism is different from that of other groups given its use of kamikazes. This is a serious problem, but it can and should be tackled.

The defense minister added that if the Shi'ites, who by and large reside in southern Lebanon, face the choice of quiet on both sides of the border or no quiet there, we will reach peaceful coexistence.

He also said that Syria, Jordan, and Egypt are preventing terrorists from entering Israel through their territory, but in Lebanon there is no one to reach an agreement with. The new reality of the IDF's departure from Lebanon and its redeployment along the international border will have to come about by way of clashes in a bid to reach peaceful coexistence. He added that Israel wants nothing of Lebanon: not water, and not land; only peaceful coexistence, even without an agreement.

As for Egypt, the defense minister said that if what lies behind Mubarak's *NEW YORK TIMES* interview is a desire to summon an Israeli delegation for a meeting with the Egyptian Government and a Jordanian-Palestinaian delegation, then he supports this idea. However, if his remarks were directed at establishing a bridge for a dialogue between the PLO and the United States, then he opposes it.

The defense minister praised the United States for not panicking in light of the Shi'ite threats to harm Americans in Lebanon if it vetoes the UN Security Council resolution. At the same time, it is a pity that the French Government headed by President Mitterrand behaved the way it did. Its behavior is not a credit to socialist countries.

Knesset Votes Down Bid To Amend Lebanon Policy

TA131824 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Excerpt] The Knesset today voted down opposition motions demanding amendment to Israel's policy of withdrawal from Lebanon. At the end of a 3-hour debate, a coalition proposal to take note of Defense Minister Rabin's statement on behalf of the government was approved.

Shamir Extends Ottawa Visit To Meet Prime Minister

TA132046 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2000 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Text] Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir has asked Canada to dispatch soldiers to the MFO, in lieu of the Australian soldiers who will withdraw from the MFO next year. He raised the request at a meeting with the Canadian secretary of state for external affairs. Minister Joe Clark said that his country will look favorably upon this request. Another decision that was made at the meeting was to tighten bilateral economic cooperation. Minister Shamir also thanked his Canadian counterpart for Canada's activity on behalf of the Soviet Jews.

Our correspondent reports that the foreign minister has extended his visit to Ottawa until Friday, in order to meet with the Canadian prime minister, who is currently in Moscow.

Sharon says Solutions Needed Before Withdrawal Ends

TA140641 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 14 Mar 85

[Text] Minister Ari'el Sharon has said the withdrawal from Lebanon should not be accelerated. The withdrawal plan decided on by the Cabinet originated in military and logistical considerations which should be fully adhered to, Sharon said. Afterward it will be too late to achieve anything we do not achieve now, so our stay in Lebanon should be used to attain our goals. Minister Sharon was speaking last night at a rally by Herut Movement activists in the Hadar Yosef quarter of Tel Aviv. Our correspondent Tzahi Noga brings us some of his remarks:

[Begin Sharon recording] The Cabinet made a decision. That decision did not originate in political considerations — despite the fact that this is what I am hearing night and day — nor in a demand by one political body or another. The plan for the evacuation of Lebanon was made as a result of military logistical considerations, and the Cabinet decision must be kept and implemented. Suitable solutions must be provided for our present situation, and we must remember that a solution must be found to the problems even before the IDF evacuates southern Lebanon. It will be much harder to provide solutions after the IDF leaves Lebanon. The solutions must be found now, and this period during which the IDF is still in Lebanon must be taken advantage of, in view of the IDF plans. I emphasize that there was not and is not any political or domestic political consideration dictating a slowdown of the IDF withdrawal. The remaining time must be used to study and provide suitable answers. [end recording]

French Clarifications on UN Vote Expected

TA131245 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Text] In the next few hours, Israeli officials expect France to explain its latest vote on two anti-Israel draft proposals at the UN Security Council and in the UN Human Rights Committee. Our correspondent reports that Jerusalem was surprised by these votes and other recent reactions, and that contacts are currently being held with Paris officials on several issues, including political ones.

Some Israeli officials see the votes as having been initiated by French Government officials while Minister of External Relations Dumas is in Moscow. Our correspondent points out that the order to vote in favor of the anti-Israel resolution in Geneva was given by the director of the department at the Ministry of External Relations which handled the issue. He also attended the vote.

Moreover, European sources told our correspondent that France's anger over the incidents between the IDF and the French UNIFIL soldiers increased following Defense Minister Rabin's remarks. Thus, there was no doubt that France would vote in the Security Council in favor of the resolution condemning Israel, regardless of its exact formulation.

Ambassador to France Comments

TA131815 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Interview with Israeli Ambassador to France 'Ovadya Sofer, currently on home leave, By Gid'on Remez; date and place not given — recorded]

[Text] [Sofer] I would not conceal that the French voting in the UN Security Council and in the UN Human Rights Committee in Geneva greatly disappointed us, and we intend to exhaust conventional channels to express our disappointment to the French authorities. However, without trying to downplay the implications of the votes, the patterns of conduct in UN bodies are dictated by basic, traditional French positions on the various aspects of the Israel-Arab conflict which have remained unchanged, as opposed to the sphere of bilateral relations in which we have witnessed a considerable improvement lately.

[Remez] However, are we talking of behavior in UN bodies only? I understand we were not so happy about French External Relations Minister Dumas' explanations about his meetings with 'Arafat. Now he has announced his intention to visit Lebanon, and this will surely not please us either.

[Sofer] I would like to note that France acted under additional considerations in its vote yesterday. I am not expressing an opinion about the justness of these considerations, but France is the only Western power of those that participated in yesterday's vote in the UN Security Council which has hundreds of soldiers serving in the UNIFIL units stationed in the fighting areas in southern Lebanon. Also I would not conceal the difference between our concepts regarding UNIFIL's duties, so that this factor too should be weighed while examining the problems which have arisen.

[Remez] If this is so, on the assumption that we will still be facing problems in southern Lebanon in the coming weeks, are we not to anticipate further friction in our relations with France against the background of its soldiers' service in UNIFIL?

[Sofer] There is no doubt that the presence of French soldiers in UNIFIL in fighting areas is a cause for friction between Israel and the French.

[Remez] The misunderstanding regarding Minister Shahal's meetings in France or Rabin's remarks in the Knesset — are these mere incidents or do they reflect a greater lack of understanding?

[Sofer] I do not know, nor can I tell whether Mr Rabin's comments influenced France's stance in the UN Security Council vote. However, in my opinion, that incident was closed prior to my arrival in Israel on leave, and I do not think it is necessary to refer to it again. As for mr Shahal's meetings, to the best of my knowledge, these meetings were postponed, not canceled. We had earlier understood that the meeting [not further specified] was conditional on some progress in the negotiations, and the French may have estimated that there was not sufficient progress to make the meetings possible.

Knesset Members Meet PLO Member in Germany

TA140944 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 14 Mar 85 p 2

[Report by *THE JERUSALEM POST* correspondent]

[Text] Bonn — A PLO representative arrived here late yesterday evening and met with four Knesset members [MK's], including Ora Namir of Labour, and other Israeli public figures who took part in a Middle East seminar organized by the Christian Democratic Konrad Adenauer Foundation.

'Imad Shaqqur, described as Yasser 'Arafat's "adviser on Israeli affairs," was sent from Tunis to meet the Israelis. In addition to Namir, MK's Mordekhay Bar-On (Citizens Rights Movement), Ya'ir Tzaban (Mapam) and Muhammad Watad (Mapam) and Prof. Yoram Dinstein and Yehoshafat Harkabi participated in the meeting. Present on the Palestinian side was journalist Raymonda al-Tawil.

Egyptians Visit for Agricultural Cooperation

TA131817 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Text] A delegation of Egyptian scientists is currently in Israel in the framework of a plan for agricultural cooperation among the United States, Israel, and Egypt. Our correspondent Efrat Ben-Horin reports that the delegation consists of 12 scientists. They will confer with Israeli agricultural experts, tour research institutes, and discuss the exchange of knowhow between Israel and Egypt.

Three Bus Attacks Reported in W. Bank 12 Mar

TA130742 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 13 Mar 85 p 2

[ITIM report]

[Text] Three Israeli buses were attacked last night in Judaea and Samaria.

Two windows of a number 60 Egged bus were broken as it passed Halhul. Some passengers were scratched.

Another bus was attacked at the same place and a passenger fired into the air.

A petrol bomb was thrown at a Dan bus near 'Anabta, between Tulkarm and Nabulus. The bomb exploded and damaged the bus.

Conditions To Be Improved in Al-Duhayshah Camp

TA131219 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Excerpts] Shmu'el Goren, Israel's coordinator of activities in the territories, promises to improve the conditions of the inhabitants of the Al-Duhayshah refugee camp, if the calm there is main-

tained. Goren visited the camp today, and our correspondent Arye Gus accompanied him.

[Begin recording] [Gus] The Al-Duhayshah refugee camp has been calm for the last several weeks; there have been no disturbances and no stonethrowing incidents. Some people atribute this to steps taken by the Military Government — the detention of incitors. The camp's inhabitants say that the situation has improved since Rabbi Levinger left Al-Duhayshah.

[Goren] We are not interested in closing the camp and restricting the inhabitants unnecessarily. In the event that calm is maintained, stonethrowing comes to an end, and all the hostile activities with which Al-Duhayshah has been blessed cease, we will obviously ease the restrictions and create a situation allowing for the maintenance of normal living here. We have explained to the people — and I reiterate — in the event that calm is maintained we will lessen our activity. However, in the event that stonethrowing and disturbances continue, we will have to act accordingly.

[Gus] The problems which weigh heavily on the inhabitants are the closure of the entrances to the main road — a thing which forces the inhabitants to enter the camp via an inconvenient bypass road — and the detentions and the treatment of the inhabitants, as exemplified in the family union policy, licences, etcetera.

The coordinator of activities has promised to review the requests. One of the dignitaries requested the release of several of the people detained in the big raid, among them Hamdi Frayj. This would enable the various camps within Al-Duhayshah to make peace and calm tempers in the camp. To this Shmu'el Goren replied:

[Goren] We will do everything possible to calm the tempers. If this includes release from detention, we will consider each case individually, after we have received the relevant information. This is not the only action we will take in order to calm tempers. However, all this is conditional upon the inhabitants of the camp preserving the calm there. [end recording]

Midday Press on Withdrawal From Lebanon

TA140816 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0800 GMT 14 Mar 85

[Review of midday press editorials]

[Text] *YEDI'OT AHARONOT* writes that the defense minister's remarks that the IDF will exert its best efforts to complete the current withdrawal phase in the shortest possible time hint at the political echelon's aspiration to accelerate the speed of the withdrawal from the eastern sector as much as possible. Even if it was not stated specifically, it appears that the leading team in the Cabinet is spurring the IDF on to accelerate the entire process in order to complete the evacuation not on the eve of Rosh Hashana as planned, but earlier. However, the nature of Shi'ite terrorism and its goals are such that there is no guarantee that our severing contact will be sufficient to stop the fanatic terrorism on the northern border. This, too, is a factor we must take into consideration when we welcome the political echelon's aspiration to evacuate in the shortest possible time.

MA'ARIV thinks the nation's views are not divided on the withdrawal from Lebanon, but on its phases. This matter should be left to the IDF, which is working in accordance with security considerations alone. The fateful mission it is facing is to lay an obstacle before Shi'ite terrorism without abandoning the war against the other terrorist organizations.

ALGERIA

Bendjedid Congratulates Gorbachev, Signs Condolence

LD131029 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 12 Mar 85

[Text] The FLN secretary general and president of the Republic [Bendjedid] has addressed a cable of congratulations to Mikhail Gorbachev on the occasion of his election as general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. In his cable, President Chedli Benjedid expressed his conviction that the USSR will continue, under the leadership of Gorbachev, to work actively and persistently for world peace and security and the creation of more reliable and just relations.

President Benjedid said: I am confident that the multifaceted relations between our two countries will become stronger and grow for the good of both our peoples.

FLN secretary general and president, Benjedid, today visited the Soviet Embassy where he signed the condolences register and expressed his condolences, and those of the FLN and Algerian Government and people, on the death of Chairman Konstantin Chernenko. He wrote the following:

By the death of Chairman Konstantin Chernenko, the USSR has lost a great struggler, a prominent figure who devoted his efforts for the great work of building a socialist society, who untiringly contributed to world security, peace, and stability, and who stood at the side of peoples struggling for freedom and independence.

The world's public will remember the efforts exerted by the late chairman for easing international tension.

In these agonizing times, we share the friendly Soviet peoples' sorrow on this bereavement. In the name of the Algerian people, the FLN and government, we express our sincere condolences and warmest sympathy to the peoples of the USSR, their leadership, and the family of the great deceased.

We reiterate Algeria's determination to continue to further bolster the two countries' strong relations in various fields, and to contribute to the efforts aimed at the establishment of a world peace founded on justice and the respect of the will of peoples.

Meanwhile, Mohamed Cherif Messaadia, FLN Political Bureau member and the official in charge of the Permanent Secretariat of the FLN Central Committee, arrived in Moscow today as envoy of President and FLN Secretary General Chedli Benjedid to represent Algeria at the funeral of the late chairman, Konstantin Chernenko.

He was welcomed on arrival by Strautmanis, deputy chairman of the Supreme Soviet, and the Algerian ambassador to Moscow, Abdelmajid Allam.

Spanish Foreign Minister Outlines 11 Mar Talks

LD121327 Madrid Domestic Service in Spanish 1900 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Correspondent Pedro Fernandez Cespedes dispatch from Algiers]

[Text] This evening Spain submitted to Algeria a trade offer worth 389 billions pesetas, which could be incorporated into the Algerian 5-year plan starting this year. As far as we have been able to ascertain, there are quite optimistic hopes for it. The working meeting between the Spanish and Algerian delegations has just ended. In addition to the Spanish prime minister, Foreign Minister Fernando Moran and Economy and Finance Minister Miguel Boyer took part in it.

Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez has spent almost the whole time since 1130, when he arrived at Algiers airport, meeting with Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid, basically discussing the normalization of relations between the two countries, which had deteriorated during the last 2 years because of the gas dispute. Now that this problem has been overcome, the prime minister said on arrival at Algiers this morning that there is now an economic, industrial, and agricultural complementarity and a notable understanding from a political point of view.

[Begin Gonzalez recording — in French] I can affirm without exaggeration that we have been closer to (?the Algerian Government) than all the remaining political organizations in North Africa. [end recording]

Both in the talks that Felipe Gonzalez had with Chadli Bendjedid and in the luncheon which the latter hosted for the Spanish prime minister, the death of Supreme Soviet Chairman Konstantin Chernenko was of course discussed. An analysis was made of the international situation in the light of the latest developments which affect us all, such as the Geneva negotiations. They discussed the Middle East and North Africa, an area for which — as Foreign Minister Fernando Moran told us — Spain wishes to formulate a global policy.

[Begin Moran recording] There is a great deal of interest in [words indistinct] at the present, and Algeria and Morocco are the two main pillars of the system in North Africa. Hence our political objective is the intensificaiton of relations and dialogue and probably the institutionalization of [word indistinct] in the sense of [words indistinct]. periodic meetings between the foreign ministers and other ministers such as the economy ministers; the preparation of a very important trip, the visit to Spain by the Algerian president — I believe that this is of course going to take place in 1985 — and then at economic level an attempt is being made to recover this market and to increase Spain's [word indistinct] in this market. [end recording]

Spain will take no fewer than 18 months to recover the fifth position it used to hold among suppliers to Algeria. The trade offer submitted by Spain here in Algeria this evening goes from equipment goods to transport, also including foodstuffs, basic materials, and consumer goods. Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez's first official visit to Algeria is not going to change Spain's position on the Sahara, the foreign minister said.

[Begin Moran recording] As you know, we want the issue of the Sahara to be resolved in a way that respects the principles contained in the UN resolutions and that also serves to resolve something that lies behind the Sahara issue and that is the element of hegemonic struggle in North Africa. [end recording]

Fernando Moran rules out a meeting between the Spanish prime minister and a Polisario Front leader as being not very probable or possible.

Mauritanian Envoy Leaves After Talks With Bendjedid

LD131339 Algiers APS in English 1019 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Text] Algiers, 13-3-85 (APS) — The Lieutenant Colonel Djibril Ould Abdallah [Interior minister], member of the Military Council of National Salvation, and special envoy of the Mauritanian president, left Algiers following a short visit in Algeria during which he conferred with President Chadli Bendjedid. In a declaration he expressed satisfaction with talks he held with President Chadli Bendjedid to whom be handed over a message from President Maayouia Ould Sidi Ahmed Taya.

Also he focused attention on the priviliged relations between the two countries and the brotherly people.

LIBYA

Al-Qadhdhafi Receives Syrian Forces Chief of Staff

LD121615 Tripoli JANA in English 1502 GMT 12 Mar 85

[Text] Tripoli, March 12, Jumada Thani 19, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The leader of the revolution received early today General Hikmat Shehabi, chief of staff of Syrian Armed Forces and as a personal envoy of the Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad who conveyed to the leader a message from President al-Asad.

It is worth mentioning that telephone contact was made last night between the leader and the Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad.

Delegation Pays Last Respects to Chernenko

LD132134 Tripoli JANA in English 1847 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Text] Moscow, 20 Jumada Thani, 13 March, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — Major al-Khuwaylidi al-Humaydi presented condolences on behalf of the leader of the revolution and the Libyan Arab people, on the death of the late Soviet leader Konstantin Chernenko to Mikhail Gorbachev, the secretary general of the Central Committee of the Soviet Communist Party, Nikolay Tikhonov, the prime minister and member of the Politburo, Andrey Gromyko, the Politburo member and foreign minister, and Vasily Kuznetsov, first vice-chairman of the council of Supreme Soviet [title as heard].

Major al-Khuwaylidi al-Humaydi also took part in the funeral ceremony of the late president. He also visited the Hall of Columns where the body was laid and placed a flower wreath there.

Major al-Khuwaylidi al-Humaydi and the accompanying delegation arrived in Moscow last night to take part in the funeral of the late Soviet leader Konstantin Chernenko.

To receiving him at Moscow Airport was the vice-chairman of the council of Supreme Soviet and the president of the Republic of Latvia and a number of Soviet officials. Taking part in the reception were members of the Libyan Arab People's Bureau in Moscow.

JANA Views U.S. Veto of UN Resolution on Lebanon

LD132017 Tripoli JANA in English 1757 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Text] Tripoli, 20 Jumada Thani, 13 March, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The American Government Last night used the veto against a resolution by the Security Council that condemns Zionist terrorist measures against the Lebanese people and that calls for an immediate withdrawal of Zionist occupation forces from Lebanese Arab territories.

Commenting on the American colonialist attitude the political editor of JANA news agency wrote the following article:

Again, we have an example of what we said about America. What we have said is still echoing back: America is a partner of (?the Zionist) enemy in crimes against the Arabs and that she designs, finances and politically supports all crimes that Zionism commited against the Arabs.

We also said: Judging by her deeds (?as well) as by her words, America is using all tools, among them Zionism, to annihilate the Arabs.

America, we all saw, used the veto in defiance of all the world in order to prevent the condemnation for crimes that the enemy commited in south Lebanon. America's logic is straight-forward, exploding car bombs in heavily populated areas and murdering innocent people, (?infants), men, women and the elderly, in their homes and cars is a legal act that nobody should dare to condemn, as long as the victims are Arabs.

Here, let us ask the pilgrims of the 'Black House' from the Arab rulers: What on earth do you say about this, how do you explain it and above all how do you justify your heading to America? Is this intentional humiliation not enough to awake your pride and self respect?

Let us repeat it again and again. We, the Arabs, are the targets of America and the Zionist enemy. Nothing like visiting Reagan or surrendering to the enemy will ever save us. The option is clear: Either we defend ourselves or we shall be killed, in our houses, cars, schools, hospitals, farms or factories. There is no way that we are going to survive without sacrifice and guns.

U.S. Embassies in Middle East on 'Maximum Alert'

LD131954 Tripoli JANA in English 1750 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Text] Washington, 20 Jumada Thani, 13 March, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The U.S. Government declared

maximum alert on all American embassies in the Middle East. This came as a precaution against any suicidal attack these embassies might be subjected to. All this came as a result of the aggressive policy that is hostile to the peoples of the region and the U.S. Government's adoption of Zionist terrorism.

News reported that in the framework of these measures, the U.S. aircraft carrier *Eisenhower* is currently present in the east Mediterranean Sea.

Delay in Reagan Welcome for Mubarak 'Profound Insult'
LD131404 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1330 GMT 12 Mar 85

[Text] President Reagan is to receive today the president of the Egyptian regime who arrived in Washington 3 days ago. Throughout the 3 days in Washington he has met with a number of aides of the American President and secondary officials in the U.S. Administration in addition to a number of members of the Zionist organizations in America.

We would not be exaggerating when we say that the American President and members of his administration deliberately insult Arab rulers visiting Washington. This method is carefully studied. It is used to draw attention to the disregard of and belittling by the American Administration for them and to let them feel in one way or another that it is not bothered with their viewpoints or with their requests, and that its only concern is to humiliate and insult visiting Arab rulers and to dictate stances to them.

Reagan's welcome to the president of the Egyptian regime 3 days after his arrival constitutes a profound insult to the president of the largest Arab country. Those who pay a visit to Washington, or those who are on their way to it, must learn a lesson from it. The U.S. Administration is always arrogant and mocks Arab rulers, even if they are from among those who cooperate with it. We see that its profound and deliberate insult to the president of the largest Arab country is intended to humiliate him, browbeat him, and consider him a mere parasitical visitor.

Accepting this insult is a clear provocation of the feelings of the Egyptian people, who ought to place the blame for this on the Egyptian president. Moreover, the regime's press and the so-called People's Assembly in Egypt ought to note what the U.S. Administration has done to their president — those people who gamble on America, advocate its policies and its imperialist course, and who loudly persist in seeking to make America attractive in Arab eyes.

Furthermore, the U.S. Administration has asked the president of the Egyptian regime, who is currently visiting Washington, to make further concessions as a condition for direct negotiations between the Zionist enemy and King Husayn and 'Arafat. American officials have urged the president of the Egyptian regime to seek to realize these concessions in return for a promise of increased food and military aid.

MOROCCO

King Leads Cer[illegible]y at Spanish-Financed Port
LD121429 Rabat M[illegible]? in English 1215 GMT 12 Mar 85

[Text] Agadir, March 12 (MAP) -- King Hassan II of Morocco who is currently touring the Moroccan southern provinces Monday afternoon presided over the launching of the works of the new port of Agadir-Anza which will be able to harbour all kinds of cargo-boats.

The sovereign was flanked by Crown Prince Sidi Mohammed and Prince Moulay Rachid and accompanied by Spanish Minister of Transport, Communications and Tourism Enrique Baron.

After he listened to explanations on technical data and the role that this port is called to play for the development of the region, the sovereign laid the foundation stone of this new port.

King Hassan II afterwards decorated Mr Baron with "the 'Alawite Wissam, Commander's Order" [medal] and held talks with the Spanish minister in the presence of Moroccan Premier Mohamed Karim Lamrani.

At the end of the ceremony, Mr Baron told the press he felt honored by the decoration he had just received from King Hassan II. "It is my first decoration," he said.

The Spanish minister said he was impressed by "this great and spectacular ceremony which witnessed a massive popular participation."

Mr Baron, on the other hand, indicated that the construction of the new port of Agadir-Anza, with the financial and technical participation of Spain, will further boost Moroccan-Spanish cooperation. "It is," he said, "a positive consequence of our fishing agreement and I am proud to see that my country's technology will contribute to achieve this project".

This ceremony was attended by members of the Cabinet, the speaker of the House of Representatives, the minister of the royal household, protocol, and chancellery, the king's advisers, the leaders of political parties, high ranking officers from the general staff of the Royal Armed Forces, the diplomatic corps accredited to Rabat, and several other personalities.

The new port of Agadir will be able to harbour all kinds of cargo-boats and will raise the traffic capacity, which is currently of one million tons per year, to 2.4 million tons per year in a first phase and then to 3.2 million tons per year in the definite phase. The new port will include 4,610 meters of sea-walls and piers, 3,490 meters of wharfs, 89 hectares of (?earth)-platforms, and an area for repairing ships. The new port having a purely commercial bent, the current port will continue its fishing activities and will harbour units of the royal navy. The costs of the works will ammount, in a first stage, to 1.2 billion dirhams, out of which one billion will be devoted to infrastructures and 200 millions to superstructures.

The new port is planned to become operational in 1988.

SUDAN

Numayri Says Revolution To Fight Fundamentalists

JN141241 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1110 GMT 14 Mar 85

[Text] Khartoum, 14 Mar (SUNA) — President Numayri has reiterated that the 25 May revolution will not be contained in the name of religion. He said that the revolution has gladly welcomed those who opposed it, took up arms against it, and committed murder, including those who took part in the Libyan invasion of 1976. Due to the revolution's tolerance, he said, these people agreed to reconciliation and participation and pledged to join the SSU, to preserve national unity and territorial integrity, and to respect the revolution and its charter and constitution.

Addressing the masses from the SSU building today, President Numayri added: It was thought that whoever raised the banner of Islam did not break his word or promise. But these cunning hypocrites concealed their true intentions. They broke their pledge to God for the sake of fulfilling their own personal ends of containing the revolution. They claimed the Islamic method, which our people and the revolution have upheld.

President Numayri said before a rally that was organized at the national capital today by the alliance forces that the May revolution remains steadfast and adheres to its one organization, charter, and the country's permanent constitution.

The president said that the revolution is determined to uphold the Islamic method and that it will not compromise or relinquish it. It will also not submit to alleged religious men who capitalize on religion when they are plotting against and betraying the people and enriching themselves through the people's misery.

The president said that the May revolution pledges to adhere to national unity and to the unity and territorial integrity of the whole of Sudan from the north to the south.

The president affirmed to the masses and the Sudanese nation that the revolution has every right to protect the people and that it will spare no effort in order to build the nation and the national entity.

The president said that in its early years, the revolution clashed with a communist plot, but thanks to the people's willpower it succeeded in crushing this plot. He pointed out that despite communist plotting in July 1971, the revolution permitted some communists to assume government posts after they pledged loyalty to the revolution and the SSU.

The president said that the revolution had been paving the way for the Islamic method since its inception. He said that wise [rashidah] leadership preceded the July communist plot and that the revolution paved the way for the Islamic method by prohibiting prostitution and alcohol. This was then followed by the application of the Islamic Sharia.

President Numayri said that after the Islamic laws were issued, the Muslim brothers became hostile to the Islamic path. They began terrorizing people in the name of religion by exploiting their position. Through tyranny and repression, they transformed dialogue into fighting, making learning institutions arenas of war. They tried to show that religion is opposed to the cause [as received] despite the fact that religion respects all causes.

The president pointed out that he had been monitoring the movements of the Muslim Brotherhood for 1 and 1/2 years, but he counseled patience and restraint so that people might know the true color of these who claim to be Muslims. He said that the eyes of the revolution were watching their secret meetings which they held at houses in uninhabited areas, thinking that they were hidden from the eyes of the revolution. However, our eyes saw them and our ears heard them, because they were at the same meetings with them. The revolution exposed their mean plots against it, he said.

The president noted that the Muslim brothers worked from within the revolution's apparatus, using its power to realize their aims. Some of them traveled abroad and exploited their positions to receive information from a state that claims to be Muslim but which works against Sudan. He said that this group worked to terrorize the people, and despite the fact that Islam teaches mercy to mankind, they tried to subjugate the people in the name of religion, although Islam preserves man's dignity. They tried to rob people of their means of life and existence by hoarding corn in the name of their religious establishments, which they employed as centers of wealth. They thought that he who possesses money can assume power. Money in Islam is used to serve and not to kill people. They transformed learning institutions into battlefields and tried to pit religion against patriotism. They said religion was the enemy of national unity despite the fact that Islam is a religion of magnanimity and tolerance of all other religions. They tried to tarnish the Islamic experiment in Sudan, the president added.

Numayri Forms Higher Committee for Peace

JN131331 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1100 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Text] Khartoum, 13 Mar (SUNA) — SSU Chairman President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri has issued a decree forming a Higher National Committee for Peace chaired by Sir al-Khatm Khalifah to formulate strategies and to set the general framework and plans regarding a peace dialogue in order to reach the best formula that would guarantee reconciliation and peace and achieve national unity among the sons of the one homeland.

The decree pointed out that the formation of the committee, which comprises 30 members, has come in implementation of what the SSU chairman said in his address on the 13th anniversary of national unity regarding the call on all citizens to hold a dialogue in order to safeguard the domestic front; to strengthen foreign policy, to safeguard freedom and tranquillity, and to improve morale so as to be able to fight the four enemies, poverty, hunger, disease, and ignorance; to maintain security and stability; to achieve peace among the sons of the one homeland and enable them to build the Arab, Islamic, and African nation; and to implement the principles of justice, fraternity, equality, unity, and socialism that are included in the national action charter and the documents of the glorious May revolution.

The decree defined the committee's tasks in assuming responsibility for calling for national unity through setting entrenched bases and pillars on which the national unity is based — entrenched bases that would strengthen Sudanese society and promote participation in the government by supporting decentralization as included in the Constitution. The decree stressed that this can only be achieved through proving real affiliation to the homeland in order to make all the citizens the pillars and bases of the Sudanese nation, and making sure that the Sudanese masses throughout the country have one ideology under the banner of the SSU and enjoy a unified public opinion that believes in the principles of national unity in accordance with the revolution's declared principles and charters, and in removing all obstacles and difficulties that prevent the committee from achieving its objectives.

The committee's tasks include calling for a general regional congress to be attended by the People's Assembly in the Equatoria, Upper Nile, and Bahr al-Ghazal regions along with the SSU conferences in order to reach final formulas and agreements. The committee's tasks also include holding the necessary contacts inside and outside Sudan, whether with states, organizations, or individuals, in addition to preparing final formulas of an agreement in the procedural, legal, and constitutional aspects, and presenting all suggestions on what should be introduced into the Constitution, laws, charters, and bylaws in order to implement them.

The decree entrusted the national committee with forming subcommittees, technical committees, and the secretariat, in addition to giving it the right to study all the papers, correspondence, and documents that would help it achieve its objectives.

The decree called on all the state organs to devote all their potentials and resources to help the committee succeed in achieving national accord, peace, and national unity. The decree stipulated that the committee should submit monthly reports to the SSU chairman, and then a full final report that includes recommendations and programed plans that need to be implemented. The decree also stipulated that all the committee's work deliberations and contacts should be confidential, and that only the committee chairman would have the right to make statements that would contribute to supporting national unity and achieving the committee's objectives.

Khartoum University Set To Reopen 29 June
JN131739 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1718 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Text] Khartoum, 13 Mar (SUNA) — It has been decided that Khartoum University will be reopened as of Saturday, 29 June 1985. The university will received resident students after 'Id al-Fitr vacation. This decision was made during a meeting of the university's management here yesterday. The meeting discussed the incidents that led to the university's closure for an indefinite period. Several committees were formed to study the necessary measures that will guarentee a quiet reopening of the university.

The university management issued a decision closing the university on 24 February as a result of clashes between groups of students.

Omdurman on Attempts To 'Kill' Economic Plan
EA131306 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 12 Mar 85

[Station commentary]

[Text] Ladies and gentlemen, the decisions and measures contained in the 10 March statement of the president of the Republic to the Sudanese nation will ensure the progress of the Islamic course in the country and ensure the country against any kind of control, whose various exponents have made a cheap attempt to kill this great experiment by means of ideas furthest from Islam and furthest from true citizenship, which advocates the happiness of the Sudanese citizen.

What is surprising is the fact that this group, as part of its underhanded planning, strove to humiliate the Sudanese citizen and to make him hostage to various forms of suffering, making it difficult for him to earn his daily bread, and to destabilize the national economy by introducing alarm and despondency in the foreign currency markets and by monopolizing basic commodities through destructive speculation in the sorghum and groundnuts markets.

This diabolical plan relied on clandestine penetration by a group of Islamic banks to afford an opportunity to those who subscribe to its ideas to play with the Sudanese economy with the aim of undermining the economic reform movement that is being spearheaded by the National Economy Supreme Council, and at preventing the reform movement from restoring the Sudanese economy to health.

It is superfluous to mention what has been felt by the Sudanese citizens with regard to (?flimsy) [word indistinct] concerning [word indistinct] of the sorghum commodity by the use of a speculative method which raised (?the prices) of these commodities to levels never seen since they became food for the ordinary Sudanese.

It is obvious that as a result of this nauseating monopoly, the people of Sudan have witnessed these alarming increases and a continuous escalation in the prices of such commodities. These were the aims of this group to help create confusion in the midst of the masses [words indistinct], those who were not Muslims, to sympathize with Sudan against which circumstances such as drought and desertification have conspired, in addition to refugees daily crossing its borders in their thousands. Have they the characteristics they claim? If so, are they playing with the food of the poor? Why are they playing with the destiny of the people?

The leader's statement revealed that the attempt of this group [word indistinct] to collaborate with another state to strike the Sudanese people, who have astonished them with their patience and endurance in the face of calamities, difficulties and hardships. [passage indistinct]

SPLA Radio: Muslim Brotherhood Leaders Arrested

EA131021 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 12 Mar 85

[Text] According to news reports monitored here last night, Numayri has ordered the arrest of 20 leaders of the Muslim Brotherhood, including its leader Dr Hassan Abdullah al-Turabi. The arrests followed the dismissal of all the members of the Muslim brothers from Numayri's government and party, the SSU. The crackdown on the Muslim brothers follows Numayri's speech last Sunday in which he said the members of the brotherhood thought by participating in the introduction of the Sharia they could take over power in the name of religion. Among the charges leveled the group are the deterioration of the state economy and the recent troubles that led to the closure of Khartoum University.

Commenting on this, a spokesman for the SPLA-SPLM [Sudanese People's Liberation Army — Sudanese People's Liberation Movement] said that by blaming the Muslim brothers for most of the current problems in the Sudan, Numayri is only shifting the responsibility from himself and his system to others. He went on to say the Muslim brothers did not enter the May system by force. Numayri took them into his system to execute his program, which included fighting his enemies in the name of Islam. Whatever Numayri has done in his system, whether the purge of religious fanatics or the declaration of empty pledge for nationalunity, cannot be an alternative to the total liberation of t h e Sudanese people, he affirmed. The SPLA-SPLM will not waste time to pay attention to window dressing by Numayri and his foreign advisers. Our only hope is the armed struggle for the creation of a united socialist Sudan, no matter how long it takes and costs, he concluded.

TUNISIA

Foreign Minister Says Maghreb Summit Postponed

NC131250 Paris AFP in English 1238 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Text] Tunis, March 13 (AFP) — A summit meeting of the five Maghreb states of northwest Africa states scheduled to take place here at the end of this month has been postponed, Tunisian Foreign Minister Beji Caid Essebsi confirmed.

Mr Essebsi said differences over the future of the Western Sahara, disputed by Morocco and the Polisario Front independence movement, was the main obstacle to convening the meeting of heads of Morocco, Algeria, Mauritania, Tunisia and Libya.

In a speech to the Central Committee of the ruling Socialist Destourian Party reported today in the daily, *ACTION*, Mr Essebsi said consulations among the five governments had resolved major differences on the Sahara dispute, in which A!geria strongly backs Polisario claims to the former Spanish colony.

ETHIOPIA

SWAPO's Nujoma Stops Over En Route to Beijing

EA121416 Dakar PANA in English 1110 GMT 12 Mar 85

[Text] Addis Ababa, 12 Mar (PANA) — Namibian freedom fighters are taking "strong measures" against racist South Africa's illegal occupation of their land, said the president of the South-West Africa People's Organization (SWAPO), Mr Sam Nujoma, in Addis Ababa, Monday.

Speaking at Bole International Airport while on his way to China, President Nujoma said South Africa had established military bases wihin Namibia aimed at attacking Botswana, Zambia and Angola.

In spite of all the "terrorist attacks of the enemy," SWAPO fighters have registered "promising results" through their unflinching measures and enjoy the full support of the Namibian people, he said.

Mr Nujoma accused the Reagan administration of using various pretexts to provide financial and military assistance including nuclear arms to the racist regime of South Africa. He explained that up to 1982 American aid to South Africa had amounted to $(?77) billion.

The SWAPO president said South Africa was "grossly tampering" with human rights in Namibia and forcefully recruiting soldiers in Namibia to implement the so-called South African defense act within the territory to withstand the [words indistinct].

He felt it was a violation of the Organization of African Unity, OAU, Charter, for Somalia to provide racist South Africa with landing rights and refuelling facilities despite last years' OAU resolution that member-states should not cooperate with the Pretoria regime in trade or any other activities.

Somali Abo Liberation Front Elects Secretary General

EA140836 (Clandestine) Voice of Western Somalia and Abo Liberation Fronts in Somali 0930 GMT 12 Mar 85

[Summary] A new secretary general for the Somali Abo Liberation Front, Mr Mohamed Hassan Gababa, was elected at a meeting of the front's Central Committee on 7 March 1985. The new secretary general, who was born in Moyale District, Sidamo region, and educated in Addis Ababa, pledged that the front would continue its struggle against Abyssinian oppression.

UGANDA

UK's Rifkind Meets With Obote, Comments on Visit

EA131832 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 12 Mar 85

[Text] The British minister of state for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, Mr Malcolm Rifkind, has assured President Milton Obote that the British Government fully appreciates the enormity of the task the Uganda Government faced when it came to office in 1980. Mr Rifkind further stated that Uganda is a country of great potential and with the policies government has put in place, things are moving in the right direction. The British minister made these remarks in a meeting with the president in his office, in Kampala, this afternoon.

Mr. Rifkind, who visited Luwero District yesterday, noted that the Army enjoys a good working relationship.

The president expressed gratitude to the British Government for the assistance and trust it has given to Uganda, which had contributed to the country's improved security situation and economic recovery.

Mr. Rifkind was accompanied by the British high commissioner to Uganda, Mr Colin McLean. The meeting was attended by ministers and senior government officials. Mr Rifkind later left for home via Nairobi.

Addressing a press conference at the Dr Apollo Milton Obote International Airport, the British minister said he had fruitful discussions with President Obote and other Uganda Government officials. He also expressed satisfaction with his 2-day visit to Uganda.

He said his visit to Luwero had enabled him to witness the truth of the problems which exist there. Mr Malcolm Rifkind noted that the people of Luwero are relaxed and there is no tension at all. He further noted with satisfaction the progress being made in the area, especially in the field of agriculture. He observed that since his visit to Uganda in 1983, a lot of progress had been made and reaffirmed the British Government's intention to assist Uganda in all fields.

Mr Rifkind was seen off at the airport by the minister of state in the office of the prime minister, Mr Edward Rurangaranga; Uganda's high commissioner to Britain, Mr Shafiq Arain; the British high commissioner to Uganda, Mr Colin McLean; and the permanent secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Mr John Bernard (Meri).

Earlier, Prime Minister Otema Alimadi gave a luncheon in honor of Mr Rifkind. The luncheon was attended by Uganda Government ministers, the British high commissioner to Uganda, Mr McLean, and other diplomats accredited to Uganda.

CHAD

Goukouni Sends Condolence Message to USSR

AB132056 Bardai Chadian National Radio in French 1800 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Text] Following the death of Comrade Konstantin Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, Comrade Goukouni Oueddei, president of the CNL [National Liberation Council] and of the GUNT [Transitional National Union Government], has sent the following condolence message to Comrade Gorbachev, the new general secretary. The message reads:

To His Excellency Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, Moscow.

It was with deep sorrow that we learned of the death of Comrade Chernenko. By his death, the people of the Soviet Union have lost their clear-sighted leader at a time in history when world peace is dangerously threatened by the renewed aggressive acts of provocative American imperialism. All the Chadian people and in particular the revolutionary patriots, the members of the GUNT cabinet, and those of the CNL, join me in expressing to you, to the CPSU, and to the people of the Soviet Union, our heartfelt condolences at this time when your country is once again experiencing a mourning period. We are convinced, however, that despite this great loss, the Great October Revolution will be able to face the new world situation as well as the threats of international imperialsim to world peace.

[Signed] Goukouni Oueddei, Chairman of the GUNT and the CNL and head of state

It will also be noted that Comrade Adoum Yacoub, secretary of state for external relations and cooperation, left for Moscow this morning to represent the GUNT at the funeral of the late Comrade President Chernenko. The funeral took place today at Red Square.

EQUATORIAL GUINEA

Vice Prime Minister Plans Visit to Nigeria

AB141215 Malabo Domestic Service in Spanish 1900 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Text] Fructuoso Mba Onana Nchama, vice prime minister and minister of national defense, today received in audience in his office Captain (Mayobe), adviser for defense affairs at the Nigerian Embassy in Malabo. During the audience, they discussed issues related to the forthcoming cooperation visit that the vice prime minister and minister of national defense will make to the Federal Republic of Nigeria. Also present at the audience were Major (Melchordo Mba), deputy minister of defense, and (Tenio de Lorenzo de la Mango), director of military cooperation.

GABON

Bongo Addresses Nation on Party Anniversary

AB131815 Libreville Domestic Service in French 0600 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Address to nation by President Omar Bongo to mark 17th anniversary of creation of Gabonese Democratic Party in Libreville on 12 March 1985 — recorded]

[Excerpts] Comrade militants and fellow countrymen and women, on the occasion of the 17th anniversary celebrations of our great party, I would not miss the pleasant tradition that has been established and that demands that I speak to you in order not only to tell you what I think, but also to invite you to meditate on the future of our society.

It is necessary today to remind each and every one of you of the extreme importance of 12 March in the political life of our country and the primordial role the PDG [Gabonese Democratic Party] has played for 17 years in the building of the Gabonese nation.

It is evident that the Gabonese nation could not be built within the framework of a multi-party system that is not adapted to our sociological context and to our philosophy of existence. The experience of our young country and that of some other African states demonstrates that the imported ideological multiparty system can only bring disorder in an environment that is not prepared to experience it. This imported multiparty system always ends up inciting regionalism, tribalism, and great misfortune for the people.

The advent of the PDG in 1968 was aimed in particular at eliminating all these ills in our political life. Thus, the party was able to replace the anarchy and political chaos that prevailed in our country at that time with stability and social cohesion.

It is for this reason that the PDG is not hidebound and dogmatic. It is a party that is open to all Gabonese. It is a framework within which discussion and contradiction coexist freely as a golden rule. It is a framework for the respect of the majority, that is the respect of the free expression of democracy. The PDG's actions are geared toward the development of man, who is the agent and the beneficiary of development. The true assets of a country are, first of all, its human resources, and, in particular, the quality of its human resources. [passage indistinct]

BURKINA

Sankara Condolence Message on Chernenko's Death

AB131745 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 0630 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Condolence message from President Thomas Sankara, chairman of the National Council of the Revolution, to Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, on the death of Konstantin Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet — sent 12 March]

[Text] Comrade, we have just learned with deep sorrow of the death of Comrade Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, and head of state. The revolutionary people of Burkina Faso and their National Council of the Revolution [CNR], through me, hereby express their sincere condolences to the heroic people of the Soviet Union, to the great party of the immortal Vladimir Ulyanov Lenin, and to its present leadership.

In these troubled and complex times, which are characterized in particular by ideological, political, and economic confrontations between the legitimate aspirations of the people for peace, true democracy, and socioeconomic peace, and the people who ridicule their objectives and persevere in methods of oppression, which include the use of the weapon of hunger, which affects and is killing people in Africa and in particular in our country, it has become more than necessary to strengthen the front of the struggling people.

It is in this regard that the rich experience of the people of the USSR, fatherland of the Great October Socialist Revolution of 1917, remains a precious gain for all revolutionary people in the world. The death of Comrade Konstantin Chernenko is a great loss for the Soviet people and all other peoples of the world. He was among the first persons to experience and witness the early victories of the proletariat and its people over capitalist and imperialist strongholds. For this reason, it is a sacred duty for us to pay a glowing tribute to his memory. The Burkinabe people, the CNR, and the Committee for the Defense of the Revolution will not fail in paying this tribute.

Comrade Mikhail Gorbachev, your people and the leading organs of Lenin's party have just entrusted to you the responsibility of leading them. Be assured that the Burkinabe people, in conformity with their strong anti-imperialist principles, will never fail to be by your side when it comes to defending the people's rights to freedom, true democracy, and progress.

The fatherland or death, we will win!

[Signed] Captain Thomas Sankara, Chairman of the CNR, President of the Faso

Congratulates Gorbachev

AB131718 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 0630 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Message of congratulations from President Thomas Sankara, chairman of the National Council of the Revolution, to Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee — sent 12 March]

[Text] Your appointment to the post of general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee gives us the opportunity to express to you our sincere and warm congratulations. I have taken note of your first statement on the friendship with the peoples of Africa, Asia, and Latin America. May your militant dynamism and your determination to fight for peace and fraternity between people help to strengthen the revolutionary ties existing between our two countries and our two peoples. Burkina Faso, the Burkinabe people, and the National Council of the Revolution [CNR] are completely prepared to give you their revolutionary support and solidarity anywhere your people and your party are involved in the fight for peace, freedom, democracy, and the socioeconomic progress of the people.

The fatherland or death, we will win!

[Signed] Captain Thomas Sankara, Chairman of the CNR, President of the Faso

Agreement With DPRK To Jointly Mine Gold at Sebba

AB121830 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 12 Mar 85

[Text] Our country and the DPRK this morning signed an agreement under which the two countries agreed to set up and to jointly manage a mining company that will prospect for gold at the Sebba gold mines. Here is the press release read by Comrade Ambroise Balma of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation on this agreement:

[Begin recording] Today, 12 March 1985, at 1100, the signing ceremony of an agreement between Burkina Faso and the DPRK took place at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation. The two sides were represented respectively by Comrade Basile Guissou, minister of foreign affairs and cooperation, for Burkina Faso, and His Excellency Yi Tae-kyun, DPRK ambassador to Burkina Faso. Under this agreement, the two governments, seeking to further strengthen South-South cooperation, have decided to set up and to jointly manage a mining company for prospecting the Sebba gold mine.

The signing of this agreement was an opportunity for Comrade Basile Guissou to express to the Korean side the satisfaction of the National Council of the Revolution, the revolutionary government, and all the Burkinabe people with the Korean authorities' efforts to promote relations of friendship and cooperation between the two countries. He also stressed that the setting up of

the mining company for which the agreement was signed will no doubt contribute toward bringing the Korean and Burkinabe people closer in their struggle for social and economic development.

Apart from Comrade Minister Guissoud and Ambassador Yi-Tae-kyun, the following persons attended the ceremony. They are, on the Korean side: Chae Chang-sik, director general at the Ministerial Administration Council; (Pak Tae-ko), director of the Ponghwa Company; (Wang Min-ho), director at the Ministry of External Economic Affairs; and Chong Pok-Tok, third secretary of the DPRK Embassy in Ouagadougou. On the Burkinabe side: Comrades Am Konate, permanent secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation; Gaoussou Sessouma, permanent secretary of the Ministry of Economic Promotion; Adama Pierre Traore of the Ministry of Economic Promotion; Prosper Vokouma, director of political affairs at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation; Ambroise Balma of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation.

The fatherland or death, we will win! [end recording]

GHANA

Rawlings Congratulates New Soviet Leader

AB132120 Accra Domestic Service in English 2000 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Text] The chairman of the Provisional National Defense Council (PNDC), Flight Lieutenant Rawlings, has congratulated Mr Mikhail Gorbachev on his election as the new Soviet leader. Chairman Rawlings said it is gratifying that soon after assuming office, Mr Gorbachev took prompt and commendable action to ensure the world that under his leadership, the Soviet Union will continue to pursue with determination the search for equitable solutions to the burning issues facing mankind, especially the issues of peace, security, and disarmament. He added: As you embark on your onerous responsibilities as leader of the great Soviet people, it is our sincere conviction that the warmth and friendship which have always characterized the relations between our two countries will be maintained and further strengthened to the mutual advantage of our two peoples.

Second Phase of Military Exercise Launched

AB132130 Accra Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Text] The force commander, Major General Arnold Quainoo, today launched the second phase of "Exercise Teamwork" by ordering his troops to prepare to engage a battalion-strong dissident force which has infiltrated the country through the Volta Region from an imaginary country called Zariba. He has therefore appointed a task force to deal with the situation.

According to a spokesman of the Armed Forces Public Relations Directorate, Gen Quainoo gave his orders at the Flagstaff House. Briefing the task force commander, Gen Quainoo said the dissident elements are well-armed with small arms, automatic weapons, hand-held SAM [Surface to Air Missle] missiles, and heavy guns. They are being supported by certain countries, exiled politicians, rich businessmen, and deserters from the Armed Forces whose aim is to destabilize the revolutionary process. He said the dissidents have infilfrated through three routes from Zariba, stopped all north-south waterborne traffic on the Volta Lake, and were established on Dwarf Island, north of the dam.

The spokesman said the task force, which is to be a composite force from all units of the Armed Forces, has been charged with immediate effect to conduct a combined airborne, waterborne, and land attack of the island with the aim of destroying the dissident force and recapturing the island.

The GBC [Ghana Broadcasting Corporation] correspondent covering the exercise says all the units making up the task force are expected to gather at the concentration area by 1800 tomorrow.

GUINEA

Conte Sends Condolences on Chernenko's Death

AB131212 Conakry Domestic Service in French 0645 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Condolence message from President Lansana Conte to the chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet following the death of Konstantin Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet — date not given]

[Text] It is with great sorrow that the Military Committee for National Redress and the government of the Republic have receievd the news of the great loss which your country has just suffered through the death of His Excellency Konstantin Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet.

We bow to the memory of the illustrious deceased who, throughout his life, remained loyal to the principle of internationalism as well as to the ideals of justice, peace, and the promotion of understanding among peoples and nations. The people of Guinea and their government, who maintain excellent relations of cooperation with the people and Government the Soviet Union, have deeply felt this loss which has afflicted the friendly Soviet people. On this painful occasion, we beseech you to accept the expression of our sincerest condolences to the Soviet people, their communist party, the Presidium, and the family of the illustrious deceased.

Highest considerations.

Signed, Lansana Conte

Condolence Book Signed

AB131210 Conakry Domestic Service in French 0645 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Excerpt] As soon as the death of the Soviet head of state was announced, the Soviet Embassy in Guinea opened a book of condolences. Yesterday, Tuesday, a Military Committee for

National Redress delegation headed by the minister of state for planning and natural resources, Captain Jean Traore, presented his condolences — the condolences of the people of Guinea to the Soviet people — and meditated before the portrait of Konstantin Chernenko, the illustrious deceased.

Conte Returns From Visit to Sierra Leone

AB132230 Conakry Domestic Service in French 2200 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Excerpt] The head of state, Colonel Lansana Conte, returned to Conakry this evening at the end of a visit which lasted a few hours to Sierra Leone, where he met President Siaka Stevens.

GUINEA-BISSAU

Armed Forces Minister Leads Delegation to Iran

For an IRNA report on the visit to Iran by a delegation led by Armed Forces Minister Iafai Camara, including Camara's meeting with Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati for "expansion of mutual relations and cooperation," see the Iran section of the 13 March South Asia *DAILY REPORT*.

LIBERIA

Second Suspect in Coup Attempt Charged With Treason

AB122150 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 2000 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Text] The main accused in the case involving an alleged plot to subvert the Liberian Government last November and institute a Marxist government has been charged with treason. Elmer Glee Johnson, 27, was on Monday indicted by the grand jury of the Criminal Service Court A and also served a writ of arrest at the Monrovia Central Prison in Monrovia.

Johnson was arrested last November by security officers in Monrovia, in Sinkor, after the plot was foiled. The prosecution in its indictment complained that the accused, last October, while residing in the United States, with wanton ambition for power, did unlawfully conspire with evil-minded persons with the intent to seize power by force, contrary to the laws of the country. The prosecution said the accused, in flagrant disregard, unmindful of the allegiance to the Liberian Government, wickedly plotted to subvert the state with himself as chairman if plans succeeded.

The prosecution continued that the accused, Johnson, in furtherance of his plot against the Liberian Government, did hire the services of William Henry Woodhouse, an ex-U.S. Marine, who accompanied him to Liberia last October to execute the rebellion for the seizure of power. According to the prosecution, the accused brought into the country last October few firearms [as heard] to perpetrate the evil act against the Liberian Government. The indictment said Johnson and his collaborators were arrested last November at [name indistinct] Road, Sinkor, in the home of one Ms Edith Beeklage, after the security forces uncovered the plot.

The alleged collaborator, Mr Woodhouse, was indicted last week by the Criminal Service Court A and charged with mercenarism.

MALI

Traore Signs Chernenko Condolence Book at Embassy

AB131209 Bamako Domestic Service in French 0700 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Text] The head of state yesterday signed the book of condolence opened at the Soviet Embassy in Bamako following the death of Comrade Konstantin Chernenko, secretary general of the CPSU and chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet. In the book of condolences, the head of state wrote: On behalf of Malians, their party, the Malian Democratic Party, and on my own behalf, we pay tribute to the memory of the great deceased, Konstantin Chernenko, who devoted all his life to the restoration of international peace and security. Our people and their party present to the Soviet people, the CPSU, and the family of the great deceased their sincere condolences.

NIGERIA

Foreign Minister Receives New PLO Charge

AB141210 Lagos NAN in English 0820 GMT 14 Mar 85

[Text] Lagos, March 13 (NAN) — The Palestinian Liberation Organisation (PLO) charge d'affaires in Nigeria Mr. Ibrahim Umar said today in Lagos that liberation movements throughout the world would remain grateful to Nigeria for its "just struggle" for the oppressed people of the world. Speaking to newsmen after presenting his letter of introduction to the minister of external affairs, Dr. Ibrahim Gambari, Mr. Umar commended the Federal Military Government for allowing the PLO to open an office in Lagos.

"It is gratifying to note that Nigeria is fully behind the Palestinians in their struggle for a homeland," he said. He said that the PLO would use the opportunity to explain the problems to Nigerians.

OBSERVER Condemns Detention of Activists in RSA

AB131400 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 13 Mar 85

[From the press review]

[Text] The *NIGERIAN OBSERVER* dismisses as hypocritical the reason given by the racist South African prime minister for the continued detention of anti-apartheid activists. It equally condemns Mr Botha for turning down the United State's appeal for the release of the nationalists. The *OBSERVER* however welcomes the efforts so far made by some American Senators to end racism in South Africa.

SENEGAL

Guinea-Bissau's Vieira Arrives for Talks With Diouf

AB121430 Dakar Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 12 Mar 85

[Text] Guinea-Bissau head of state Joao Bernardo Vieira this morning arrived in Dakar. He was received at the airport by President Abdou Diouf. The Guinea-Bissau president's visit falls within the framework of the excellent relations between Senegal and Guinea-Bissau which have been (?strengthened) by the conclusion of a number of agreements in many fields. There is no doubt that this visit to Dakar will enable the Guinea-Bissau president to review with his Senegalese counterpart the major aspects of this cooperation and also to examine the current situation in our subregion and the African Continent in general.

President Abdou Diouf's last visit to Guinea-Bissau took place in January on the occasion of the summit conference of the Gambia River Development Organization.

President Bernardo Vieira will leave Dakar at 1600 this afternoon.

Algerian Foreign Minister Meets Diouf, Comments

AB141105 Dakar Domestic Service in French 0700 GMT 14 Mar 85

[Text] Algerian Foreign Minister Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi arrived in Dakar yesterday evening. Some moments after his arrival at Dakar-Yoff Airport, where he was received by his Senegalese counterpart, Ibrahima Fall, the Algerian foreign minister was received in audience by President Abdou Diouf. What did the two men discuss? Let us listen to Taleb Ibrahimi:

[Begin recording] [Ibrahimi] The discussions focused mainly on bilateral cooperation, the situation in Africa, particularly in the Maghreb, and the prospects for our continental organization, the OAU.

[Unidentified reporter] Concerning specifically the situation in the Maghreb, many international observers have connected your visit to the West African subregion to the recent statement by King Hassan II on the referendum in Western Sahara. Can you confirm this?

[Ibrahimi] As for me, I am here to discuss with President Abdou Diouf the situation in the Maghreb in general. My visit is not at all connected with King Hassan's statement.

[Reporter] What does Algeria think about the statement of King Hassan II? Does this constitute a step forward?

[Ibrahimi] We gave an official reply in yesterday's communique of the Foreign Ministry's spokesman, which I ask you to read.

[Reporter] Thank you. [end recording]

Agreement With Guinea-Bissau on Border Arbitration

AB131500 Dakar Domestic Service in French 2200 GMT 12 Mar 85

[Statement issued following a meeting on maritime border dispute with Guinea-Bissau delegation held in Dakar on 12 March — read by Ibrahima Fall, Senegalese minister of foreign affairs]

[Text] The Governments of the Republic of Senegal and the Republic of Guinea-Bissau, admitting that they were unable to resolve the dispute on the determination of the maritime border through diplomatic negotiations; desirous of seeing this dispute settled as soon as possible because of the friendly relations between them, have decided to resort to arbitration and have agreed to the following:

Article 1: The arbitration tribunal, hereinafter referred to as the tribunal, will consist of three members appointed in the following manner: each party will appoint one arbitrator of its choice, the third arbitrator, who will be the president of the tribunal, will be appointed by mutual consent by the two parties, or, in the absence of this, the choice will be made by the two arbitrators by mutual consent after consultations by the two parties. The three members of the tribunal shall be nationals of third countries. The arbitrators should be appointed within a period of 60 days after the signing of the present agreement. In case the president or any member of the tribunal should not be available, his place will be filled by a new member appointed by the government that nominated the member who must be replaced, in the case of the two arbitrators respectively appointed by the two governments, or by a renewal of the procedure envisaged by the preceeding paragraph, in the case of the president.

Article 2: The tribunal is asked to give its ruling according to the norms of international law on the following questions:

a. Should the agreement concluded by an exchange of letters on 26 April 1960 concerning the maritime border be taken into account in the relations between the Republic of Guinea-Bissau and the Republic of Senegal?

b. In case of a negative answer to the first question, what is the line of demarcation of the territorial waters of the Republic of Guinea-Bissau and the Republic of Senegal?

Article 3: The seat of the tribunal shall be in Geneva, Switzerland.

Article 4: The tribunal can only give its ruling when all its members are present. Decisions of the tribunal concerning the main issues of litigation or of procedure, including any issues on the competence of the tribunal and the interpretations to be given to any compromise, shall be made by a majority of its members.

Article 5: Within 30 days of the signing of the present compromise agreement, each party will appoint, for assist the arbitration, an agent or co-agents and give out the names and addresses of their respective agents to the other party and to the tribunal. The tribunal will, as soon as it is constituted, and after consultations with the two agents, appoint a clerk.

Article 6: The proceedings before the tribunal will be given full hearing. It will consist of two phases: one written and the other oral. The written phase will consist of:

a. A memorandum which will be submitted by the Republic of Guinea-Bissau no later than 4 months after the tribunal has been constituted;

b. A countermemorandum which will be submitted by the Republic of Senegal no later than 4 months after the submission of Guinea-Bissau's memorandum;

c. A reply presented by the Republic of Guinea-Bissau no later than 2 months after the submission of Senegal's countermemorandum;

d. A reply presented by the Republic of Senegal no later than 2 months after the submission of the reply of Guinea-Bissau.

The tribunal will have the option of extending time periods so fixed at the request of one of the parties.

Article 7: The written and oral submissions to the tribunal will be in French and/or in Portuguese. The decisions of the tribunal will be in these two languages. The tribunal, as the need arises, will seek translations and interpretations and will have the power to hire secretarial personnel, appoint experts, and take any measures concerning the premises and the purchase or the renting of equipment.

Article 8: The general expenses of the arbitation will be submitted by the tribunal and will be borne equally by the two governments. Each government will bear the expenses incurred from the preparation and the presentation of its case.

Article 9: At the end of the proceedings, the tribunal will inform the two governments about its decision on the question enunciated in Article 2 of the present compromise agreement. This decision should include the drawing of a demacration line on a map. To this end, the tribunal shall be empowered to appoint one or two technical experts to help it in the preparation of this map. The decision will be well-founded. The two governments will decide whether or not to publish the ruling and/or the documents pertaining to the written proceedings [words indistinct].

Article 10: The arbitration tribunal's ruling will be signed by the president of the tribunal and the clerk. The clerk will deliver a copy of the ruling in the two languages to agents of the two parties. The ruling will be final and binding on the two states, which will be bound to take the necessary measures for its implementation. The original text will be deposited in the archives of the United Nations organization and the International Court of Justice.

Article 11: During the proceedings, none of the parties shall consider carrying out any activities in the area under dispute. The tribunal has the power to prescribe the necessary temporary measures to safeguard the interest of any one of the parties at the request either one of them.

Article 12: The present compromise agreement will go into effect on the date it is signed.

In witness whereof the undersigned, duly authorized by their respective governments, hereby sign the present compromise agreement.

Issued in duplicate in Dakar on 12 March 1985 in French and Portuguese. The two texts are considered to be genuine.

For the Government of the Republic of Senegal, His Excellency Ibrahima Fall, minister of foreign affairs; For the Government of the Republic of Guinea-Bissau, His Excellency Fidelis Cabral de Almada, minister of national education and chairman of the National Commission for borders.

Minister To Sign Chernenko Condolence Book

AB131532 Dakar Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Text] On the occasion of the death of Chairman Konstantin Chernenko and in the name of the head of state, Armed Forces Minister Medoune Fall at 1700 this afternoon will sign the register of condolences opened at the Soviet Embassy in Dakar.

SIERRA LEONE

Foreign Minister To Visit UK 20-22 Mar

AB130605 Paris AFP in English 1323 GMT 12 Mar 85

[Text] Freetown, March 12 (AFP) — Sierra Leone Foreign Minister Sheka Kanu is to pay an official visit to Britain from March 20 to 22, the Foreign Ministry said today in a statement released here. The visit will be at the invitation of British Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe, the statement added.

ANGOLA

Dos Santos Meets Soviet, Cuban Officials in Moscow

MB131950 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1900 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Excerpts] Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos, chairman of the MPLA-Labor Party and president of the People's Republic of Angola, attended the funeral of Soviet President Konstantin Chernenko in Moscow today.

Comrade President Jose Eduardo dos Santos this morning received Leonid Ilichev, the USSR deputy minister of foreign affairs. At about 1930 Moscow time, Comrade President Jose Eduardo dos Santos received Raul Castro Ruz, member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of Cuba Central Committee and first vice president of the Councils of State and Ministers of the Republic of Cuba.

The presidential delegation is expected to return to Luanda tomorrow.

Savimbi Presides Over UNITA Anniversary Celebration

MB140824 (Clandestine) KUP in Portuguese to Central and Southern Africa 0600 GMT 14 Mar 85

[Text] Free Land of Angola, 14 Mar (KUP) — More than 20,000 people attended yesterday's commemoration of 13 March, the day of UNITA's foundation. General Dr Jonas Melheiro Savimbi, UNITA's president, presided over the ceremony and a great number of foreign journalists, who came to witness the release of the American, British, Filipino, and Portuguese guest-workers from Kafunfo, were also present.

Yesterday morning, UNITA's President Gen Dr Savimbi read an important document, a declaration from the UNITA national committee, and held a press conference afterward. In the afternoon and evening a soccer match and social and cultural activities were held.

The released guestworkers will return to their countries shortly.

BOTSWANA

Masire Congratulates Gorbachev on New Position

MB140935 Gaborone Domestic Service in English 0510 GMT 14 Mar 85

[Message of congratulations from President Quett Masire to Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee — date not given]

[Text] The government and people of Botswana join me in conveying to you warm congratulations on your appointment as general secretary of the Central Committee of the CPSU. It is my fervent hope that under your leadership the good relations that so happily exist between our two countries will continue to grow in the years to come for the mutual benefit of our peoples.

Let me take this opportunity to wish you a continued good personal health and for the peace and progress of the friendly people of the USSR.

COMOROS

Acting President Announces Coup Thwarted 8 March

AB141140 Paris AFP in French 1117 GMT 14 Mar 85

[Text] Moroni, 14 Mar (AFP) — Armed soldiers of the Presidential Guard, with the complicity of civilian elements, tried to overthrow the government of Abdallah Abderemane, now on a private visit to France, in an abortive coup d'etat last Friday at 2030 local time, Mr Ali Bazi Salim, the minister of state acting for the president of the Republic, announced Thursday in a radio message. Following are the contents of the message:

"I am transmitting the following message to the nation in my position as minister of state acting for the president of the Republic, who is now abroad: Some second class soldiers of the Presidential Guard, with the complicity of some irresponsible civilians, tried to take up arms to plunge the country into chaos through a coup d'etat on Friday, 8 March, at 2030. Thanks to the blessing of God Almighty and of Prophet Mohamed and all the country's saints, the operation failed.

"The people involved are now in the hands of the gendarmerie as far as the civilians are concerned and at the Kandani military camp as far as the military are concerned. An inquiry has been opened.

"As you can see, the situation is calm throughout the national territory. However, the government will not tolerate any action of this kind, and any person who tries to repeat a similar operation will be severely punished.

"The government calls on...all citizens to remain calm and vigilant."

MAURITIUS

Jugnauth Speaks at Independence Celebrations

AB131354 Paris AFP in English 1219 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Text] Port Louis, March 13 (AFP) — The 17th anniversary of Mauritius independence was celebrated here Tuesday with Prime Minister Aneerood Jugnauth calling for a national effort to beat unemployment inflation in the country. In his independence-day message, the prime minister urged his people to modernise agriculture and accelerate efforts to improve industry and tourism. He also called for efforts to promote social justice, individual liberties and discipline.

Indian Justice Minister Arshoke Sen was the guest of honour at the anniversary celebrations.

MOZAMBIQUE

Machel Meets With UK's Thatcher in Moscow

MB131813 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1700 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Excerpt] President Samora Machel has just met with British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher at the British Embassy in Moscow. The meeting was at the request of Margaret Thatcher, during which they reviewed the situation in southern Africa.

While the meeting was in progress, American Vice President George Bush arrived at the British Embassy in Moscow to meet with Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher.

Security Commission With RSA To Meet 14 Mar

MB141130 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 14 Mar 85

[Text] The Mozambique-South Africa joint security commission is expected to meet in Maputo today. The Mozambican delegation is led by Security Minister Colonel Sergio Vieira. Roelof Botha and Magnus Malan, the South African ministers of foreign affairs and defense respectively, arrived in Maputo this morning. The meeting is being held 2 days before the first anniversary of Nkomati Accord, signed on 16 March 1984.

Pact With South Africa on Migrant Workers

MB131713 London BBC World Service in English 1515 GMT 13 Mar 85

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] In what seems to be an attempt to stop the Nkomati Accord between South Africa and Mozambique going to an early grave, a deal has been done over Mozambican migrant workers in South Africa. The accord was signed a year ago, but it has been at risk of crumbling because of lack of South African investment in Mozambique and the continued activities of Mozambique National Resistance guerrillas, and ther have been persistent allegations that the guerrillas are still getting some kind of support from inside South Africa. But the new agreement on migrant workers should have considerable economic benefits for Mozambique. From Durban, Neal Lewis reports:

[Begin recording] In terms of the new labor agreement, thousands of Mozambican nationals illegally working on fruit and maize farms in the eastern Transvaal will have their status elevated. The Mozambicans will be given work permits to remain in the area while farmers will be able to recruit workers from a local labor office. At the request of Mozambique, the South Africans have agreed to open an office in the small town of Nelspruit where all Mozambicans will be registered for employment.

The chairperson of the local agricultural union, Willem Joubert, who represented farmers on the South African delegation to Mozambique, describes the agreement as a breakthrough for agriculture in the region. Mr Joubert revealed that the aliens with work permits would also be allowed to work on the mines. Mozambicans have up to 1 May to receive their work permits, he said.

It is believed here the new agreement will be in a similar vein to the existing deal between Lesotho and Pretoria, whereby the South Africans send a portion of workers' wages back to their home country.

Most Mozambicans currently in the eastern Transvaal fled into South Africa to escape the ravages of a serious drought, as well as the terror of the MNR rebel movement. [end recording]

Maputo on Nkomati Violations, Violence in RSA

MB131920 Maputo in English to Southern Africa 1800 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Station commentary]

[Text] Saturday marks the 1st anniversary of the Nkomati Accord between Mozambique and South Africa. As the anniversary approaches, a great deal is being said and written about violations of the nonaggression and good neighborliness agreement from South African soil.

This is no longer a matter of speculation or accusation. The South African foreign minister, Mr Botha, last month admitted that elements in South Africa were continuing to supply assistance in some form or another to the Mozambican National Resistance in Mozambique. This and the assistance provided by individuals and organizations nostalgic of Portuguese colonialism have enabled the terrorists to continue their banditry at a higher level than would otherwise have been possible.

But this is not an open-ended conflict. The armed bandits in Mozambique will be defeated, whether or not they continue to receive arms, ammunition, money, and training from abroad. To imagine that a popular government can be brought down by acts of terrorism and sabotage specifically directed against the people is an absurd notion. The fact that Nkomati has not brought peace and tranquillity to Mozambique is unfortunate, but it does not alter the inevitable outcome of the conflict. The Mozambican people, led by the Frelimo Party, will win.

However, there is another aspect of Nkomati that should not go unnoticed. This is the fact that it has not ended the violence in South Africa. Before Nkomati, the South African Government claimed that the struggle against it was a foreign conspiracy, with Mozambique playing a key role. Since Nkomati, there has not been a single charge that Mozambique is violating the accord in any way. But the South African Government today is facing greater and more organized popular resistance that it has faced in many years. The masses of South Africa are in conflict with a violent and repressive system which is recognized as such by the entire international community.

It seems there is no end to this conflict in sight. As South Africa's economic situation deteriorates, the government's armed forces and police are resorting to more violence and more repression.

The black majority respond with greater resistance, showing determination to struggle for democracy and justice for all South African citizens.

There is only one way to end this cycle of violence, and that is to dismantle the system which causes it — the apartheid system. The inevitable end of the conflict in South Africa is the destruction of the apartheid regime, and when apartheid goes, peace will have a chance in southern Africa, because apartheid is the root cause of aggression and destabilization in the region.

RAND DAILY MAIL on Conditions in Maputo

MB131313 Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL in English 13 Mar 85 p 6

[Second of 3-part article by Benjamin Pogrund after a visit to Maputo: "Machel's Second War — Against Deprivation"]

[Text] Maputo continues to survive. It looks rundown and many buildings are more than ever in need of paint. But the main streets are being maintained, and despite continuing holes and cracks in pavements there is evidence of repair work.

A taxi is a rare right and buses are scarce. But the streets are reasonably clean, the sewerage system works, the water flows and the electricity is maintained — when, that is, the MNR does not knock out the supplies which are fed from Escom in South Africa.

It seems the MNR can, and does, blow up pylons at will. Maputo has a back-up plant but it cannot cope with the city's full needs so load has to be shed when the Escom supply is halted.

Food, however, continues to be short to an extent difficult for anyone who hasn't been there to comprehend. A German journalist says that his experience of visiting 110 countries he has never been in a city where the shops are as bare as they are in Maputo. Somalia in 1977, during a civil war, was the worst, he says, until he went to Maputo last month.

Go into a fair-sized supermarket and literally all that is found are bottles — dumpies — of piri-piri sauce, bottles of hair oil and packets of beans, plus a few rationed foods like mealie meal, rice and sugar.

On each visit by this writer over the past few years there has also been one particular product in abundant supply at that time: a couple of years ago it was tins of rat poison; last year it was tins of Bulgarian sausages (on ration); this time it is rolls of poor-quality toilet paper.

Some people say that the queues at shops are now fewer and smaller and rationing has eased — because there is less food available.

On the other hand, there is evidence of rather more food on offer than a year ago, mainly because the drought has broken and some fruit and vegetables are coming from the "green zone" around the city, with its agricultural co-ops and smallholdings.

But these additional supplies are being sold on a growing black market. This can be seen at the old market in Maputo, where lemons and spinach — at R1 a kilo — and a few other greens can be bought. Even bread — for the equivalent of R9.50 and R7 for small loaves.

The fact is that the local currency — the metacal — is virtually useless because there is little to buy, not unless you want a handful of items such as a small tube of ponds vaseline for R12 or a pair of (poorly cut) boy's shorts for R19. By way of comparison, the lowest wage, for labourers and domestic workers, is about R140 a month; office workers get between R199 to R240; professionals earn from R570 upwards to around R1,000.

The government is worried about the black marketeering: the local newspaper, *NOTICIAS*, recently published a page one editorial warning against "corruption".

Where the black market is not enough then old-fashioned barter has taken over: you have six lemons or a fish and I have a packet of blades so we do a swap.

At the same time, and at least in Maputo, there is no visible starvation. The food is dreary and in short supply but somehow people are managing.

An aspect of Mozambique which is again flourishing, as in Lourenco Marques of colonial times, is the pavement cafes — with the difference that blacks are going to them. It has taken time for people to grow accustomed to their right to go there.

The food in the cafes is not plentiful, and it is anything but gourmet class. But dishes of fish and chicken can be bought, and at present both coffee and milk are available. It's a lot better than a year ago when people sat around for an evening with nothing more than a glass of water or, possibly, a cup of coffee.

Now the cafes are packed with people enjoying themselves, and may wait patiently in queues until late at night for a table.

One place where food even butter and meat, continues to be available if the Polana Hotel. But the insistence on payment in foreign currency limits the number who can eat there.

The local currency is maintained at an artificial level and for a South African this has the distressing — and bizarre — effect of meaning that rands have declined sharply in relation to metacais.

The Polana still presents itself as a five-star establishment and charges accordingly, with R23 for lunch or dinner. But rooms are not only threadbare but dirty. And there's no hot water.

The gardens are as graceful and well-kept as ever, with a stunning view over the sparkling Indian Ocean. But in place of the wealthy white South Africans who once lazed in the sun, now there are North Korean men, carefully keeping to themselves, Russians carefully keeping to themselves, and a babale of languages from English thorugh French and Portuguese and Italian — drawn from the many nations trying to help Mozambique get on its feet.

Renamo Predicts Maputo To Fall Before June
MB141018 Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL in English 14 Mar 85 p 1

[Text] Rebels opposed to Mozambique's Frelimo government say there will be no more South African-chaired peace talks between themselves and Maputo, because President Samora Machel's government is "doomed".

Mr Jorge Correia, European spokesman for the Renamo rebel group, said in Lisbon yesterday the war would be taken to its "ultimate conclusion" and the government would fall before Mozambique's 10th anniversary of independence in June.

Speaking on the eve of the first anniversary of the Nkomati Accord, he said President Machel would either be assassinated or put on trial "to account for the way he has run the country".

SOUTH AFRICA

R.F. Botha, Malan Leave for Nkomati Talks in Maputo
MB140905 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0900 GMT 14 Mar 85

[Text] Cape Town, March 14, SAPA — An urgent attempt is being made to salvage the Nkomati Accord on the eve of the first anniversary of its signing. The Department of Foreign Affairs today confirmed that two senior cabinet ministers and two deputy ministers secretly left for Maputo this morning to meet their Mozambican counterparts.

The minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, the minister of defence, General Magnus Malan, and their respective deputy ministers, Mr Louis Nel and Mr Adrian Vlok, flew to the Mozambican capital from Pretoria.

Diplomatic observers see the move as a necessary attempt to salvage a threatened collapse of the accord signed by President Samora Machel and Mr P.W. Botha on March 16 last year.

Observers point out that once the initial euphoria surrounding the signing had diminished, the accord began to present difficulties to both sides. Recently the possibility of a complete breakdown became evident — unless urgent steps were taken.

President Machel has expressed in the strongest terms his belief that South Africa was not meeting its co.. mitments and that the rebel MNR movement was continuing to be supported from within South Africa. The accusation was levelled that the South African authorities were unable to properly control their borders.

These accusations have been persistently denied by South Africa, but in spite of this relations have continued to deteriorate. Since the signing of the accord, the MNR it [as received] has apparently grown in strength and expanded its activities. The beleaguered Mozambique Government has persistently refused to accept Mr Pik Botha's explanations that South Africa no longer had any control over the MNR and its operations.

Diplomatic sources point out that there has been growing concern for President Machel's position within his Marxist government. His continued support of Nkomati has been undermined by the MNR's activities while his more hardened Marxist lieutenants are seeking justification for severing the accord and readmitting the communist-backed ANC, who were expelled from Maputo immediately after the signing of the accord.

It was not clear whether President Machel will return from Moscow — where he attended the funeral of the Russian leader Anatoly Chernenko [name as received] — in time to meet the South African deputation.

It is certain, however, that the South Africans will hold intensive discussions with their immediate counterparts before returning to South Africa. Mr Botha is scheduled to hold an anniversary press conference on the Nkomati Accord on Saturday.

Diplomatic observers see a special significance in the secrecy, particularly where it affects the South African press, with which this visit has been surrounded. In the past such visits to Maputo have been accompanied by a press contingent.

Johannesburg on Need To Reestablish Nkomati Trust
MB140802 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 14 Mar 85

[Station commentary: "One Year After Nkomati"]

[Text] On Saturday, the historic Nkomati Accord will be a year old. Yet it is concern rather than satisfaction that (?pervades) comment on the anniversary.

The unresolved security situation in Mozambique and hence the continued absence of the economic benefits that were to have accrued to that country have placed its government under intense pressure to reassess its position.

As a result, there has evidently been an erosion of the mutual trust on which the treaty depends. The Nkomati Accord signaled a turning point not only in relations between South Africa and Mozambique, but for southern Africa as a whole. It made a major contribution toward removing the superpower conflict as an element in the affairs of the subcontinent by averting the prospect of Soviet militarism within Mozambique itself as well as through the ANC. And it provides a framework for a regional dispensation based on an acknowledgement of the sovereignty of member states and a desire to coexist peacefully and cooperate in economic development.

It was on those grounds that Western governments welcomed the agreement and expressed renewed interest in investment aid to the region. The failure of the accord would therefore have the most far-reaching effects on stability and development throughout southern Africa.

The essential foundation for the Nkomati Accord was the acceptance by both signatories of the legitimate security demands of the other. With it went a commitment not to permit any form of aggressive action from within the borders of either state against

the other. For South Africa, it was not only a diplomatic triumph, but the biggest breakthrough ever made against the ANC terrorism from neighboring states. Within months, terrorist incidents in the country, of which an estimated 60 percent had previously been planned and launched in Mozambique, had declined sharply.

However, Mozambique, having paid a heavy diplomatic price in Africa, has not benefitted similarly. For that country, suffering intense economic hardship, the greatest potential value of the Nkomati Accord lay in the economic cooperation and development projects which would result once stability had been restored.

It was assumed last March that the mutual undertakings on security would put an end to MNR subversion. That has not happened, and the economic benefits that depend on the reestablishment of peace have therefore not materialized. Perhaps inevitably there had been increasing accusations from Maputo that South Africa is not acting effectively to stop aid reaching the MNR from this country.

The South African Government has emphatically denied the charges. In January President Botha himself issued a strong warning that the government would not tolerate violent action against Mozambique from South African territory and would act against persons who planned or perpetrated such violence. He singled out the MNR in pointing out the harm it was doing to the people of Mozambique and the interests of its neighbors.

Whatever the reasons for the present state of affairs, it is vital for all concerned — South Africa, Mozambique, southern Africa, and the West — that it should be cleared up. None can afford to have the Nkomati Accord founder. To ensure that it succeeds and achieves the aims for which it was designed, mutual trust will have to be reestablished through action at the highest levels.

R.F. Botha Warns of Consequences of UN vote

MB131730 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Text] South Africans have been warned — as in the case with the disinvestment campaign against the country — not to underestimate the possible consequences of the unanimous condemnation of South Africa in the UN Security Council. The warning is contained in a statement made in Cape Town by the minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, on the latest Security Council decision regarding South Africa.

He said the effect of these actions would hit all South Africans hard. The country and its neighbors — already facing severe economic pressure — would probably be affected even further should the campaign succeed.

Mr Botha said the prosperity and stability of the entire subcontinent were threatened, and that it had become a matter of urgency for all countries in southern Africa to stand united in opposing these threats. If this was not done, each and every one would pay a heavy price.

Mr Botha expressed regret that Britain, the United States, and other Western countries had allowed themselves to be forced further into not offering resistance to the real aims of the militant majority in the United Nations, which was actively engaged in promoting revolution and violence in South Africa.

Mr Botha said it was clear that those elements wanted to see the creation of a situation of large-scale conflict in South Africa, and to allow this situation to be branded as a threat to peace by the Security Council, and in so doing, to pave the way for coercive measures in terms of the UN Charter.

Mr Botha pointed out, however, that the American and British support for the Security Council decision had been accompanied by reservations about certain aspects of the decision. The two countries had also commented positively on the state president's latest initatives concerning black people.

Mr Botha also noted that the final council decision had been a watered down version of the demands made initially.

Johannesburg Critical of Disinvestment Campaign

MB131810 Johannesburg International Service in English 1500 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Station commentary: "The Campaign To Punish Progress"]

[Text] Several leaders from across the political spectrum in South Africa have pointed out that it is hardly the time now to try to isolate the country further from the international community. This was repeated in London this week by the leader of the opposition in the House of Assembly, Dr Frederick van Zyl Slabbert. He said at the end of his visit to Britain that it was the wrong time for the rest of the world to try to isolate South Africa further. Fundamental changes were taking place in the country, he said, and the world had to recognize that. Dr Slabbert added: Change will more likely be brought about through involvement and interaction with the international community than by threats of further isolation.

A private member's motion condemning disinvestment was debated in Cape Town yesterday in the House of Delegates, the house for Indian members in South Africa's three-chamber Parliament. The minister of foreign affairs, Mr R.F. Botha, told the House that South Africa remained committed to the path of peaceful evolutionary reform. However, the one course the country would not follow was that of appeasement.

Despite the potential harm disinvestment could cause to all South Africans, Mr Botha said, it was encouraging to see how it had served to unite people of all colors and creeds, and to demonstrate to the world how strongly they could stand together. It was a show of the determination of the people of South Africa to build their own future, and not to allow outsiders to do it for them.

Disinvestment, he said, was opposed by the majority of South Africans, including black leaders who represented antigovernment viewpoints. We welcome the constructive advice of our friends, Mr Botha said, but we reject demands and prescriptions.

Perhaps the most telling comment on the anti-South Africa campaign and its timing came recently from Mr Peter Marais, the leader of the People's Congress Party in the House of Representatives, the house for the Colored members of Parliament.

Speaking at his party's congress, Mr Marais posed the question: Why call for economic sanctions now? Twenty years ago, it could have been justified, but why punish progress?

This should cause all ordinary people in the United States to reflect what real cause they are being misled into supporting.

Heunis Warns Private Sector on Political Statements

MB140632 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 14 Mar 85

[Text] The minister of constitutional development and planning, Mr Chris Heunis, has warned the private sector not to make unrealistic utterances about so-called meaningful political participation if it is ill-informed as to what this will mean.

Addressing a meeting of the Institute of Bankers at Sandton yesterday, Mr Heunis said the private sector was probably not even prepared to live under the systems that were sometimes proposed for public consumption. He said the government was committed to devising and formulating a political dispensation for and with the cooperation of black communities.

Mr Heunis said that only by acquainting oneself fully with the progress made in the past few years and by taking cognizance of the government's intentions, was it possible to make a meaningful contribution to the constitutional development of blacks.

He said if the private sector was satisfied with the bona fides of the government's commitment of implementing just solutions to problems, its contribution would more likely augment the efforts of the government.

ZAMBIA

Kaunda Deplores Labor Leaders' Stand on Strikes

MB131925 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Text] President Kaunda has deplored the attitude of labor leaders who, since independence, have not condemned the more than 2,000 illegal strikes that have taken place. In a press release, the permanent secretary of labor and social services, (Vincent Malawone), said, contrary to press reports, that President Kaunda had given an assurance to the Congress of Trade Unions that union subscriptions would be deducted within the (?check-off) system, in fact the party and its government deplores the illegal strikes.

Mr (Malawone) said the president had summoned the trade union leadership yesterday to talk to them about how the party and its government deplored the illegal strikes, and emphasized that the government has no intention of legalizing these strikes, adding that measures already taken to curb illegal strikes will be vigorously enforced, and not withdrawn.

ZIMBABWE

Mugabe Sends Condolence Message to USSR

MB131843 Harare Domestic Service in English 1745 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Text] The prime minister, Comrade Robert Mugabe, has sent a message of condolence to the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet on the death of Comrade Chernenko. Comrade Mugabe said the Soviet leader will be remembered for his contribution to the strengthening of solidarity among the world's progressive forces and the search for world peace and stability.

The prime minister said Comrade Chernenko will also be remembered for his commendable efforts which succeeded in the resumption of the stalled nuclear disarmament negotiations.

Mugabe on Understanding Between Police, Public

MB131223 Harare Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Text] The prime minister, Comrade Robert Mugabe, says there is now better understanding between police and the public. Speaking after reviewing a passout parade of 392 constables at (Kennington) Depot in Harare today, Comrade Mugabe said this is a situation which must be enhanced. The depot commandant, Chief Superintendent Gilbert (Mukiwiri), said this is the biggest number of constables to pass out at any time in [word indistinct]. Most of the constables are former combatants. Comrade Mugabe said the constables now join a new police force and understanding of the law should be used to serve and protect the masses. He said at the same time the police must show no mercy on bandits, criminals, and robbers.

The prime minister added that after independence the force had been transformed not only in attitude towards the masses but also in its racial composition.

Radio Truth Cites Nkomo Speech in Bulawayo

MB131000 (Clandestine) Radio Truth in English to Zimbabwe 0430 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Station commentary]

[Text] The Ndebele may be battered and bruised, but they are most certainly not beaten. This was demostrated with full force and effect on Sunday when the biggest rally since independence took place at Bulawayo's White City Stadium. About 15,000 supporters cheered, whistled, and ululated at this official launch of ZAPU's election campaign.

Joshua Nkomo was in fine form and treated the massive crowd to a hard-hitting attack on the government and the ruling party. During his speech, he had these pungent comments to make: Independence without freedom is meaningless and there is no freedom in this country. We stand a cursed people; independence has meant no rest for us. There is no more rule of law in our land. Young men are being trained day in and day out to kill their brothers, to kill their mothers and fathers, to kill their friends and relatives, to kill the nation. People are forced to attend ZANU-PF meetings at the point of a gun. They are forced to buy ZANU-PF cards at points of guns. Is this freedom? The elections are already a fraud before they have started.

Mr Nkomo alleged that ZANU-PF loyalists have abducted and murdered 378 people in Matebeleland as part of what he called an ongoing exercise to bring fear and to intimidate people to vote for ZANU-PF. He accused the governemnt of indiscriminate arrests and of detaining hundreds of people purely on political grounds. He referred also to those who have been redetained after acquittal in court.

Joshua Nkomo charged that the government was putting obstacles in the way of opposition parties wishing to hold political rallies. He cited the instance in Harare where his party had been told it would have to take out 100,000 dollar insurance policy in order to hire a municipal stadium. He denounced the way in which three other attempts by ZAPU to hold political rallies had been foiled by violent demonstrations staged by ZANU-PF supporters.

The enormous turnout at White City and the thunderous applause accorded to Mr Nkomo's address illustrated beyond dispute that ZAPU was alive and well and kicking. Despite all the attempts to crush the opposition by brute force, there is going to be no walkover for ZANU-PF in the coming election.

Another hopeful sign, which ironically has been accelerated by ZANU-PF thuggery, is the closer accord between Joshua Nkomo and Abel Muzorewa. At the big rally, Nkomo hammered the ruling party for the cold-blooded murder of five United African National Congress officials at Hwange. Previously, he had attended and spoken at a funeral service for two of the victims of ZANU-PF violence. Some 5,000 people attended the service. Clearly there was a better understanding of the issues at stake and the realization that only a joint effort by all the minority parties can save our country. We wish them the best of fortunes, for, undeniably, our future is riding on their cooperation.

Muzorewa Says UANC Denied Rally Permits

MB140812 (Clandestine) Radio Truth in English to Zimbabwe 0430 GMT 14 Mar 85

[Text] Addressing a news conference recently, Bishop Muzorewa stated that 500 applications by his United African National Congress [UANC] party to hold political meetings have been turned down.

It is public knowledge also that Joshua Nkomo's ZAPU party has had to cancel four major rallies at Masvingo, Chinhoyi, Kwekwe, and Esigodini because of disruption by ZANU-PF agents or, in the last case, because authority was denied by the police.

Meanwhile, the ruling party itself has been able to hold as many meetings and rallies as it desired. So much for the promise of a free and fair election.